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Japan

Tariff Cut Urged on Processed Farm Products

OW1212024792 Tokyo KYODO in English 0234 GMT 12 Dec 92

[Text] Geneva, Dec. 11 KYODO—The United States on Friday urged Japan to lower what Washington considers to be high tariffs on processed farm products, Japanese Government sources said.

During bilateral market-access talks being held under the Uruguay Round of global trade talks, U.S. negotiators called for lower tariffs on more than 30 products including chocolate, biscuits, gum, cocoa and whisky, the sources said.

While boasting one of the world's lowest tariffs on industrial products, Japan has been criticized by the U.S. and the European Community (EC) for imposing relatively high tariffs on processed farm products.

The sources said the Japanese team at the negotiations told its U.S. counterpart that the government is facing difficulties in lowering tariffs due to nagging domestic problems that have been left unresolved.

The Japanese officials explained that sugar and wheat producers and processors will be dealt a severe damage if tariffs which currently protect them are lowered.

Japan, for its part, called on Washington to reduce tariffs on textile products, trucks and ceramics.

It also complained that the U.S. has failed to produce an item-by-item tariff cut list due by March for all participants in the trade talks being held under the auspices of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

Japanese negotiators are scheduled to hold similar bilateral market-access talks with Canada and Australia on Monday and with New Zealand on Tuesday.

Law Revision 'Necessary' To Lift Rice Ban

OW1212090092 Tokyo KYODO in English 0851 GMT 12 Dec 92

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 12 KYODO—A sweeping revision of the Foodstuff Control Law is necessary if Japan accepts a proposal to replace the existing ban on rice imports with tariffs in the ongoing Uruguay Round world trade talks, according to government documents obtained by KYODO News Service Saturday.

Government sources said the relevant law may have to be scrapped because the tariff system will make it impossible for the government to maintain controls on the volume of rice distributed in the country.

The global trade negotiations under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) are focused on whether Japan and other major negotiating partners will accept the tariff proposal for rice trade.

The Foodstuff Control Law was enacted during World War II to stabilize rice distribution and its prices. It imposes a ban on rice imports.

The government documents said the introduction of tariffs on rice imports is impossible without revising the act.

Atsuo Kudo, former director of the Cabinet Legislative Bureau, told a House of Representatives session in February that the tariffication on rice imports is incompatible with the existing law.

The documents say it is inconceivable that both the supply and demand and the price structures for rice on the domestic market will not be affected by the opening of the rice market.

The papers also claim that the import liberalization will make it impossible for the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries to formulate a basic program for annual rice supplies.

Farmers will be freed from obligation to sell rice to the government after rice imports are decontrolled, according to the documents.

Tanabu: Nation To Continue To Protect Rice

OW1212063792 Tokyo KYODO in English 0501 GMT 12 Dec 92

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 12 KYODO—Japan will continue to seek to exempt rice from a proposal made in ongoing world trade talks to convert its outright ban on rice imports into tariffs, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Minister Masami Tanabu said Saturday.

Speaking at his first press conference under the new cabinet, Tanabu suggested that it is too early for Japan to make a compromise on the rice issue.

"We may take off our clothes one by one, but can't do so at once," Tanabu said, referring to the possibility of Japan accepting the proposal made by Arthur Dunkel, director general of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

Tababu retained his post in a cabinet reshuffle on Friday.

Japan has been under increasing pressure from farm exporting countries such as the United States to accept the so-called tariffication proposal to bring the stalled world trade talks under GATT to a successful conclusion.

"I believe (the United States) understands that rice is a difficult issue," Tanabu said.

The Uruguay Round of GATT talks have been stalled for nearly two years because of a dispute between the United States and the European Community over farm subsidies.

But with the U.S.-EC dispute settled recently, Japan has moved into the spotlight as its opposition to the tariffication proposal serves as a barrier to an agreement on global farm trade.

Miyazawa Said Close to Decision on Rice Issue

OW1412104392 Tokyo KYODO in English 1016 GMT 14 Dec 92

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 14 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa will make a final decision on the opening of Japan's rice market, Chief Cabinet Secretary Yohei Kono indicated Monday.

Touching on remarks made by Miyazawa Saturday, widely taken to indicate the government's readiness to lift its ban on imported rice, Kono said the premier thinks it is time to decide on the rice issue and other items as well.

Kono stressed, however, that the premier's remarks do not signify a shift in Japan's stance on the near total ban on rice imports.

A top Farm Ministry official, also commenting on Miyazawa's remarks, denied any implications of Japan's eventual acceptance of the proposed conversion of the rice import ban into tariffs under the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations.

"The remarks reflect the premier's general stance in negotiations, and I believe it is wrong to take them as suggesting the acceptance of the tariffication formula or the launching of a struggle to achieve certain terms in favor of Japan," said Akio Kyoya, vice minister for agriculture, forestry and fisheries.

Miyazawa indicated Saturday the government will have to accept the tariffication proposal made by GATT Director General Arthur Dunkel last year.

The world trade talks, held under the auspices of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade [GATT], have entered their final stage with the recent agreement between the United States and the European Community (EC) over farm trade, he said, noting that Japan must never spoil the talks.

Another government spokesman said the government will confer with opposition parties on possible acceptance of the proposed conversion of the rice import ban into tariffs under the Uruguay Round of world trade negotiations.

"If we shift our policy to the acceptance of the tariffication formula, we have to confer with people from opposition parties," said Motoji Kondo, deputy chief cabinet secretary for political affairs.

Kondo made the remarks in response to a request from Shigeru Ito, head of a Social Democratic Party panel on the anti-liberalization of Japan's rice market, that the government renew its stance not to import foreign rice in the multilateral trade talks.

At the prime minister's official residence, Ito also demanded the government continue and strengthen restrictions on imported agricultural products and assert Japan's right to protect its domestic farming industry.

Kondo reportedly told Ito that the Miyazawa remarks do not signify a shift in the government's stance over the rice issue and added the government will stick to its earlier stand of keeping foreign rice out.

He also touched on internal procedures necessary to adopt the tariffication formula, saying, "It is necessary to revise the food control law (for the acceptance of the tariffication proposal), and this would be an effective ratification in the Diet."

Ito also proposed the government send a suprapartisan delegation to Geneva, where the GATT is based, to make clear Japan's objection to the liberalization of its rice market.

Kondo reportedly replied that the premier's official residence will consider the proposal in a positive manner.

The dispatch of the delegation, if realized, will likely be made under the sponsorship of the Diet.

Meanwhile, Seiroku Kajiyama, the new secretary general of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party, indicated Japan will eventually have to accept the tariffication formula.

Kajiyama said, "If the agreement is being made between the U.S. and the EC, I wonder if Japan can take an adamant opposition (to the opening of the rice market)."

Defense Agency Head on Military Ties With U.S.

OW1512153592 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 1239 GMT 15 Dec 92

[Interview with Defense Agency Director General Toshio Makayama by NHK announcer Miyuki Morita; place and date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Morita] The biggest task before the new Miyazawa Cabinet is how to deal with public distrust in politics. What do you think should be done first to reform the political system and to remove the harmful effects of factionalism?

[Nakayama] Political reform will not be carried out in a day. Political reform is a major task to be accomplished in the future. In the past, the failure to carry out political reform caused two or three cabinets to collapse. I believe that political reform should be carried out in any case. The newly formed Miyazawa cabinet will not be able to fulfill its mission if Mr. Miyazawa fails to take the first step toward political reform. We intend to work hard in the future.

[Morita] What do you mean by the first step?

[Nakayama] I mean that it will take a substantial amount of time to fully carry out political reform, and political reform is not something which can be carried out in a day.

[Morita] In Cambodia, Self-Defense Forces [SDF] personnel are carrying out PKO duties. The Pol Pot faction still resists disarmament, and recently the faction kidnapped some cease-fire monitors from the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia. How do you think the SDF members can carry out their PKO activities safely and smoothly in that country?

[Nakayama] What concerns me most are the Pol Pot faction's moves. Presently, areas where engineering units of the SDF are now engaged in construction work are very secure. They are working hard there. However, we cannot predict what might happen there in the future. I think that Japan should work, in concert with other nations, to help Cambodia restore peace at the earliest possible date.

[Morita] Because of changes taking place in the world situation following the end of the cold war and Japan's difficult fiscal situation, the review of the Mid-Term Defense Buildup Plan from 1991 to 1995 is now under way. How are you going to review the plan?

[Nakayama] By all means, I want to at least maintain Japan's defense capability—these are my thoughts. The Defense Agency is now studying hard how it should coordinate between the review of the Mid-Term Defense Buildup Plan and next year's defense budget. We should deal quickly with changes in the situation.

[Morita] The defense budget will be curbed in the course of compiling next year's national budget. The new Clinton Administration is expected to ask Japan to strengthen its defense capabilities and increase cost-sharing for defense. How will you deal with these requests?

[Nakayama] In view of the remarks Mr. Clinton has made, as you just said, I feel that he will step up requests to Japan. Japan will exert itself as much as possible when he does make such requests. As I have just said, I will have to work hard just to maintain Japan's basic defense capabilities.

Groups Protest Against Okinawa Artillery Drills

OW1512092492 Naha RYUKYU SHIMPO in Japanese 15 Dec 92 Morning Edition p 2

[Text] With U.S. forces set to conduct artillery drills, firing live ammunition over Prefectural Highway 104 for two days from 15 December, the Social Democratic Party of Japan [SDPJ], the Okinawa Prefectural Council Against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs [Geinsuikyo], and the Okinawa People's Congress to Safeguard the Constitution and Oppose the Security Treaty [Goken-Hananpo] sent their representatives to Naha Defense Facilities Administration Bureau [DFAB] and the prefectural government on 14 December to demand cancellation of the drill.

House Representative Kosuke Uehara and other members of the SDPJ called at the Naha DFAB and protested about the drills to bureau Director Tadanori Someha.

They said: "Despite the fact that the assumed enemy—the USSR—no longer exists, the military drills and exercises in the prefecture are increasing. This year, so far, there have been 13 artillery drills conducted, shooting live ammunition over Prefectural Highway 104. This is the same number of drills as last year."

Director Someha replied: "At least they are aware they should not hold more exercises than last year. I understand your purpose. I have made requests to the U.S. forces here to the same effect—pointing out the inconvenience and safety problems the drills pose to the people of the prefecture."

Representatives of Gensuikyo and Goken-Hananpo met Mr. Takayama, director of the Governor's Executive Office, at the prefectural government office. In their protest, they said: "Although the international situation is changing, the reality of military exercises on Okinawa is that they are going the other way. The exercises are being stepped up and expanded. We have made so many requests to the forces to stop the exercises. The attitude taken by that nation is regrettable. We call on you to make a strong plea to the offices concerned."

Director Takayama said in response: "The prefectural government knows that it must make strong calls for the suspension of the exercises. We know that there have been many exercises conducted this year. There is no change in our intention to continue making strong calls on them."

Russian Official Urged To Stay on 'Reform Path'

OW1512090492 Tokyo KYODO in English 0410 GMT 15 Dec 92

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 15 KYODO—Japan on Tuesday [15 December] urged newly elected Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin to continue traveling along a reform path.

"Until the new premier announces his cabinet it is difficult to predict which direction he plans to move in. Japan hopes that he will continue the reform policies," Chief Cabinet Secretary Yohei Kono told a regularly scheduled news conference.

Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe in a separate news conference expressed hope that the change would not affect negotiations on a Japan-Russia territorial dispute over four Russian-held islands off Hokkaido.

Watanabe said there is no change in the president or foreign minister, so Japan must "continue to move forward quietly" with its current line of policy.

Tokyo is seeking Russian acknowledgment of Japan's sovereignty over four islands seized by the former Soviet Union at the end of World War II. It says full-scale aid will not be made available until the dispute is settled.

Watanabe said he cannot predict whether international assistance plans for Russia would be affected by the replacement of the reform-minded Yegor Gaydar with Chernomyrdin, who has been reportedly critical of radical economic reforms.

Much depends on whether Chernomyrdin keeps a promise to the International Monetary Fund on economic and financial reforms, Watanabe said.

International Trade and Industry Minister Yoshiro Mori told a separate news conference Tuesday he has the impression that the congress's support for Chernomyrdin is intended to put Russian President Boris Yeltsin in an awkward position.

Mori suggested that Yeltsin's failure to gain approval for Gaydar shows that his position has become harder.

The vote by congress put Security Council Secretary Yuriy Skokov in first place, Chernomyrdin second, and Gaydar third.

Yeltsin nominated Chernomyrdin as his choice for prime minister and the congress approved it by an overwhelming 721 votes to 172.

Mori said he regards Chernomyrdin as an advocate of moderate economic reforms.

He said Yeltsin's choice reflected the atmosphere at the congress, since he decided that Skokov should remain in his current post for security reasons.

On about the outlook for Japan-Russia relations, Mori said he hopes Russia will make further progress in reforms toward democratization and a market economy.

"We will support such moves in Russia," he said.

Israeli Foreign Minister Peres Arrives in Tokyo

OW1412044192 Tokyo KYODO in English 0348 GMT 14 Dec 92

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 14 KYODO—Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres arrived in Tokyo on Monday for talks with Japanese leaders.

During a four-day stay in Japan through Thursday, Peres will meet with Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa, Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe, and International Trade and Industry Minister Yoshiro Mori.

He will also meet Emperor Akihito and leaders of the Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren), Japan's most powerful business organization.

Peres' visit is the third to Japan by an Israeli foreign minister.

As part of efforts to raise its profile in the peace process, Japan has been inviting senior officials from Middle East countries to visit Tokyo.

Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' came to Japan last month, Egyptian Foreign Minister Muhammad Musa is expected around January 20, and Jordanian Foreign Minister Kamil abu-Jabir has been invited to pay a visit in the near future.

Urges Deeper Ties With Israel

OW1412111092 Tokyo KYODO in English 1026 GMT 14 Dec 92

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 14 KYODO—Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres called Monday for Japan to forge deeper ties with Israel while maintaining its good relations with Arab states.

Peres, who arrived in Japan earlier in the day for a four-day official visit, made the remarks to reporters at the Japan National Press Club.

Saying Japan's maintenance of good relations with Arab nations "doesn't disturb" Israel, Peres added that the Jewish state "has never asked any country to lower its relations with the Arabs in order to have better relations with Israel."

"On the contrary, we believe it is in the interest of Israel and peace that Japan continue to have good relations with the Arabs," he said,

Peres reasoned that good Japan-Arab ties are conducive to Israel's own desire to eventually reconcile with the Arab states.

He lauded Japan's recent call on Arab countries to drop their economic boycott of Israel, which he described as "unjustified." The boycott has long dissuaded Japanese companies from doing business with the Jewish state.

"I appreciate very much the step taken by the Japanese Government," he said.

Peres is scheduled to hold talks on Tuesday with Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa, Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe, and Minister of International Trade and Industry Yoshiro Mori.

Peres told reporters that to encourage expanded bilateral trade he will be calling for conclusion of a bilaterul agreement on avoidance of double taxation.

He said he will also promote joint ventures in such fields as science and technology.

The foreign minister said he would attempt to explain to his hosts that by doing business with Israel, Japan would also be engaging itself in the future of the Middle East.

Peres noted that some European companies are already involved in "the planning and construction of the new

Middle East" in such fields as transportation, communications, energy, and water desalinization.

Peres' visit to Japan is the third by an Israeli foreign minister. In 1985, then Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir paid a visit, followed in 1989 by then Foreign Minister Moshe Arens.

Urges Improved Ties With PRC

OW1512054692 Tokyo KYODO in English 0406 GMT 15 Dec 92

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 15 KYODO—Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres has called for better ties with China, saying "We are trying to improve our relations with China, not just between governments, but also between peoples."

Peres, in an interview with KYODO News Service on Monday [14 December], said President Hayim Herzog will go to Beijing next week and that Israel looks forward to a reciprocal visit to the Jewish state by Chinese President Yang Shangkun.

Herzog's visit, scheduled to take place from December 24 to 30, will make him the first Israeli head of state to visit China since the two countries established diplomatic relations in January.

"Undoubtedly the president represents the people more than the government," Peres said.

Asked if while in Beijing Herzog may broach the subject of China's reported exports of weapons to Arab countries, Peres said, "Probably the president will mention it, but that won't be the main subject of his visit."

Peres arrived in Tokyo on Monday for a four-day official visit for talks with Japanese leaders.

On Israel's agreement with Taiwan to exchange representative offices, Peres noted that China has never rejected trade relations between Taiwan and other countries.

He said Israel recognizes that there is only "one China even if these are with two systems."

At a news conference Monday, Peres denied reports that Taiwan was buying military planes from Israel, calling them a "fantasy."

Asked about reports that Pakistan is considering establishing diplomatic relations with Israel, Peres said that "not much progress" has been made so far and denied any contacts between the two countries on the issue.

Peres confirmed reports that an Israeli Foreign Ministry official, Eytan Bentsur, visited North Korea around early November as part of its global drive to have more countries recognize Israel and establish relations with it.

"It was an exploratory visit and he was invited unofficially," the foreign minister said. "For the time being, everything remains within the limitation of an informal visit. Nothing else has developed since then."

Israel has strongly criticized North Korea's weapons sales to Syria, including sales of Scud-C ballistic missiles.

Views Muslim Kidnapping Incident

OW1412094992 Tokyo KYODO in English 0902 GMT 14 Dec 92

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 14 KYODO—Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres said here Monday that he hopes for a peaceful resolution to an incident over the weekend in which an Israeli paramilitary policeman was kidnapped by Muslim fundamentalists.

Israel on Monday reportedly sealed off the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip as police and army troops conducted searches for the 29-year-old sergeant major kidnapped Sunday.

"The search still goes on and I hope it will end peacefully," Peres told reporters at the Japan National Press Club. He arrived in Tokyo earlier in the day for a visit through Thursday.

The kidnappers on Sunday issued a demand for the release of their spiritual leader, Sheik Ahmed Yassin, the founder of the Islamic Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement], who is serving a life sentence in prison on a manslaughter conviction.

The kidnapping has escalated tensions between Jews and Arabs in Israel and the cabinet of Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin held an emergency session late Sunday to discuss strategy.

During the search, the 1.8 million Palestinians living in the occupied territories have been barred from entering Israel proper, while Palestinians in Israel have been told to return home.

Peres noted that Israel's calls on Arabs to release Israelis missing in battle have gone unanswered.

Discusses Visit Activities

TA1512145492 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1310 GMT 15 Dec 92

[Telephone interview with Shim'on Peres in Tokyo by Gid'on Remez—live]

[Text] [Remez] Good day to Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres in Tokyo. Before asking you about your trip to Tokyo we unfortunately have to ask you about the tragic event back in Israel, the murder of border policeman Nisim Toledano.

[Peres] This is a shocking incident. This is the latest in a long series of very severe attacks against Israel. I believe that we will do everything necessary and employ all measures at our disposal. First of all, I would like to express my condolences to the family of the murdered man. I know how tough it is, what difficult hours they have been through and what tough days lie ahead. I think that all the Israeli people feel for them. Let us hope they know no more sorrow and that the murderer, or murderers, who carried out this despicable act are caught.

[Remez] Mr. Peres, do you expect this incident to cause any changes in the fields you are responsible for—foreign relations and the peace process. There have already been calls in Israel to stop, or at least temporarily halt, the peace talks.

[Peres] I cannot see any benefit in that. I know that there are Arabs who want to murder not only people but also the peace. They will only be encouraged if someone tries to capitulate to them. Breaking off the talks or even postponing them would be like awarding a prize to those who seek to murder the peace process.

[Remez] As a former defense minister, which steps would you advise taking following this incident? Are there any special actions that could be taken? The security forces have arrested hundreds of Hamas and other activists in the territories and there are calls to deport them or to impose other severe punishments. Perhaps the death penalty is now called for?

[Peres] Look, the issue of capital punishment is periodically raised. Many Likud members, for example, demanded the death penalty while the Likud was in power but it was not employed. Why not? Because they reached the conclusion that it was not necessarily an effective measure. What we have to do is to punish the guilty to the full extent of the law, while at the same time taking care not to harm innocent people. One cannot punish those who were not involved. We must capture those responsible for perpetrating this deed and those who planned the act. These people must be brought to justice and punished as severely as possible.

[Remez] Mr. Peres, however painfully, we now have to move on from this tragic incident to another event, which was supposed to be a happy one. Your visit to Japan was supposed to possibly symbolize a full normalization between Israel and Japan, at least with regard to economic ties. You were supposed to meet with the emperor and with the relevant Japanese ministers. Can you give us your impressions?

[Peres] Yes, I indeed met with the emperor. That was quite out of the ordinary because the emperor does not normally receive foreign ministers, and I think the Japanese sought to make a gesture toward Israel. I met the emperor this morning at his palace. We sat together for over 30 minutes. He expressed great interest in Israel. He was quite knowledgeable on local developments, and asked that I give his regards to President Herzog. He expressed interest in Professor Katzir who received a very prestigious scientific award here. He expressed interest in the peace process and Israel's development. I told him I would be very pleased if he visited Israel, and he replied that this depended on his government to a great extent. I found him to be very updated, knowledgeable, and friendly.

Then we had a really excellent meeting with the prime minister, which was scheduled to last 20 minutes but lasted about 45 minutes. We discussed a long series of issues and to all intents and purposes met with no negative responses. The prime minister himself said that Japan sees eye to eye with Israel's basic positions. I called on Japan to fulfill a political role commensurate with its economic clout. I appealed to Japan to contribute both to world peace and in the building of a new Middle East. We discussed bilateral issues such as expanding trade between the two countries and establishing a joint cooperation fund for scientific projects. We discussed signing a dual taxation agreement and moving faster toward an aviation agreement. I asked the Japanese Government to help us in our search for missing soldiers. I received positive responses on all these issues.

We have just returned from a lengthy meeting at the Foreign Ministry—over three and a half hours—which included dinner. At this meeting we officially finalized all the issues on the agenda. In the meeting we met a group of leading Japanese industrialists and insurance company directors. The commissioner of the Bank of Israel is with me, and he lectured them on Israel's economic situation, and on investment possibilities here. His lecture aroused much interest, and this is the first time that Israel has been given such a wide forum to explain its positions to the media, to the companies, and to the government in what is most definitely a warm and friendly atmosphere.

As for the war on the Arab boycott, we asked the prime minister to bring it up when the G-7—the seven large industrialized countries—convene in Tokyo. The Japanese Government has made its position on the boycott known to Japanese companies, and we should hope that all this will have an impact on both the Israeli economy and on the peace process.

[Remez] Did you really receive the impression that Japan's declared opposition on the Arab boycott, which was issued just prior to your visit, was more than just lip service but really meant for domestic consumption? Was it really brought to the notice of the large Japanese companies.

[Peres] Most definitely yes. Today the companies were informed personally, and in Japan, as you know, words suffice for control. Words have great significance here.

[Remez] Thank you, Mr. Peres in Tokyo, and good luck on the rest of your visit.

Seeks Aid in Ending Arab Boycott

OW1512080692 Tokyo KYODO in English 0600 GMT 15 Dec 92

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 15 KYODO—Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres asked Japan on Tuesday to push for an end to the Arab economic boycott of Israel when it hosts the Group-of-Seven (G-7) summit of major industrialized nations in Tokyo next July, officials said.

Foreign Ministry officials said Peres filed the request with the G-7 summit host country in a 45-minute meeting with Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa. The officials said the Japanese leader "understood" the request.

The 1991 G-7 summit in London incorporated such a call in its political declaration, but it was omitted from the one issued at the last summit in July in Munich.

Officials said Peres, who arrived Monday for a four-day official visit, also expressed his government's appreciation for Japan's call on Arab countries this month to drop their boycott.

Japan says it took the move in response to the Likud government's partial suspension of construction of Jewish settlements in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The boycott over the past four decades has cost Israel millions of dollars in lost trade with Japanese and other international companies, who risked being blacklisted by Arabs if they traded with Israel.

The six Arab nations in the Gulf Cooperation Council reportedly are preparing to end the boycott. But Peres told KYODO News Service in an interview Monday, "we are still awaiting a real move on the part of the Arabs."

"Israel has moved, we have changed a lot of things, and we weren't reciprocated," he said.

Officials said Peres said Israel wants to attract more Japanese investment and to raise the volume of bilateral trade.

Miyazawa said would-be Japanese investors might be wary of sinking money into an area surrounded by hostile Arab states and suggested Israel work hard to change the perception that a precarious "life or death" situation exists there.

Officials said Miyazawa agreed to consider an Israeli request for the two countries to cooperate on science and technology projects in such fields as desalination and efforts to halt desertification.

Peres also voiced hope that Japanese tourism to Israel and the Middle East region will increase.

Officials said Miyazawa lauded Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin's reversal of the previous Yitzhaq Shamir government's policy on building Jewish settlements in the occupied territories.

He asked that Israel continue its efforts to accelerate the Middle East peace process and "not backtrack on core issues."

Officials said Peres welcomed Japan's efforts to play a greater role in the peace process. He invited Miyazawa to visit Israel and Miyazawa in turn invited Rabin to Japan.

Says No More Settlements Planned

OW1512124492 Tokyo KYODO in English 1219 GMT 15 Dec 92

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 15 KYODO—In a meeting later Tuesday with Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe, Peres declared that Israel would no longer build Jewish settlements in the occupied territories.

"There won't be anymore settlement activity," he was quoted as telling Watanabe.

But officials said Peres did not make it clear if there are any conditions or reservations attached to the pledge.

"One should observe carefully what will be the real policy of the Israeli Government on this issue," said one official.

Officials said since Rabin's previous declaration there would be no more settlements built, the Israeli Government has differentiated between "security settlements" and "political settlements."

They said Israel appeared to only have pledged to stop the construction of political settlements.

Officials said Watanabe called on Israel to stop all building of settlements as a confidence-building measure.

They said he proposed the two countries have working-level talks as early as next May or June.

Matsunaga Appointed Tokyo Representative at Large

OW1512094692 Tokyo KYODO in English 0334 GMT 15 Dec 92

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 15 KYODO—Veteran diplomat Nobuo Matsunaga on Tuesday [15 December] assumed the new office of cabinet-level government representative at large to negotiate major international issues, the Foreign Ministry said.

Matsunaga, 69, will serve as a de facto second foreign minister to act for Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe, who is often busy with Diet affairs. Diet approval is required for a cabinet minister to go abroad while the legislature is in session.

A former ambassador to the United States and one-time vice foreign minister, Matsunaga attended the Munich summit last July on behalf of Watanabe, who was ill at the time.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Yohei Kono denied that the appointment of Matsunaga was related to Watanabe's health.

Watanabe emerged from a 43-day stay in the hospital last July after undergoing a gallstone operation, but official sources have said his health continues to be a consideration in scheduling overseas travel.

A senior government official said that giving the post to Matsunaga, who is well connected in Washington, reflects concern that trade tensions might increase with the United States after U.S. President-Elect Bill Clinton takes office in January.

Japan's total trade surplus through November 1992 already exceeds the previous high set in 1986, and economists predict it could continue ballooning next near.

Dailies React to Appointment of New Cabinet

OW1212023892 Tokyo KYODO in English 0208 GMT 12 Dec 92

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 12 KYODO—Major Japanese dailies Saturday gave high marks to some of the new cabinet appointments made by Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa but voiced doubt over whether they can really bring about political reform.

Editorials by the four leading Japanese papers—the ASAHI SHIMBUN, YOMIURI SHIMBUN, MAINICHI SHIMBUN, and NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN—pointed out that the key factor in Friday's cabinet reshuffling was whether Miyazawa could appoint the "right person in the right place" to carry out political reform.

The dailies praised the new appointments of Masaharu Gotoda as justice minister, Yohei Kono as chief cabinet secretary, Mayumi Moriyama as education minister, and the retaining of Masami Tanabu as farm minister.

But the ASAHI editorial said the cabinet members should not end up being simply "ornaments" and to avoid such a fate it is essential that the prime minister provides "firm" leadership.

"Whether or not the new cabinet ministers can show their abilities depends on the prime minister's own ability," the ASAHI said.

The ASAHI editorial also said the new cabinet should make efforts to regain public trust in politics—trust which has plunged in the wake of the Tokyo Sagawa Kyubin money-and-mob scandal involving key politicians.

The MAINICHI, YOMIURI, and NIHON KEIZAI editorials said the reshuffling continues to "reflect factional dynamics" and expressed doubt over the naming of three top posts of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP).

The dailies described Seiroku Kajiyama, the new LDP secretary general, as "passive about political reform" and pointed out that Koko Sato, retained as the head of the Executive Council, was found guilty of taking bribes in the Lockheed scandal in the 1970s.

Hiroshi Mitsuzuka, new chairman of the Policy Affairs Research Council, has also been rumored to be involved in the Tokyo Sagawa scandal, the papers said.

"This appointment is not 'the right person in the right place' as Miyazawa says," the MAINICHI said.

The YOMIURI said the new cabinet faces many difficult problems, both domestic and international, and called on Miyazawa to "show more determination and leadership this time around."

LDP Appoints Kato as Acting Secretary General

OW1312015392 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 0300 GMT 12 Dec 92

[From "the NHK news" program]

[Text] On 12 December, the Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] held a meeting of its four top executives. At the meeting, the LDP decided to appoint former Chief Cabinet Secretary Koichi Kato as LDP acting secretary general [position between secretary general and deputy secretaries general]; he will assist the secretary-general.

In response to yesterday's appointment of new LDP executives, including Secretary General Seiroku Kajiyama, the LDP discussed other party posts. As a result, former Chief Cabinet Secretary Kato, who belongs to Prime Minister Miyazawa's faction, was appointed as acting general-secretary in the hope that he will serve as a mediator between the party and the prime minister.

In addition, Tsutomu Kawara of the Miyazawa faction, former director general of the Defense Agency, was appointed as chairman of the Diet Affairs Committee in charge of managing Diet affairs. Kaoru Yosano of the Watanabe faction, former deputy chairman of the Diet Affairs Committee, was appointed as chairman of the general assembly of the LDP members of the House of Councillors.

The LDP plans to decide other party posts and officially initiate its new structure after the next fiscal year budget is compiled.

Diet Members Urged To Appear Before Prosecutors

OW1212041792 Tokyo KYODO in English 0357 GMT 12 Dec 92

[Text] Tokyo, dec. 12 KYODO—Prosecutors plan to question incumbent parliamentarians they suspect of being among some 60 politicians to whom retired political kingpin Shin Kanemaru reportedly distributed 500 million yen he illegally received from Tokyo Sagawa Kyubin Co., informed sources said Saturday.

The prosecutors plan to begin questioning as early as Saturday afternoon unidentified House of Representatives members who won lower house seats in the 1990 general election, the sources said.

The sources indicated that those to be questioned were members of the once largest faction of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), founded by former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita.

The prosecutors on Friday urged some Takeshita faction Diet members to appear at the Tokyo district public prosecutors' office, and some accepted, they said.

Some of the parliamentarians may be questioned in their local electoral districts, they said.

The prosecutors will ask if they have accepted personal financial assistance from Kanemaru, the sources said.

One parliamentarian who reportedly agreed to the questioning, speaking on condition of anonymity, denied the allegations that he received financial aid from Kanemaru.

Kanemaru's former secretary, Masahisa Haibara, had earlier told prosecutors the funds Kanemaru received had been distributed to some 60 of the more than 80 candidates from the Takeshita faction running in the 1990 general election.

Kanemaru, former LDP vice president, admitted accepting 500 million yen in 1990 from the now-defunct Tokyo Sagawa Kyubin parcel delivery firm and subsequently resigned as a lower house member in October after paying a 200,000 yen fine for violating the Political Funds Control Law.

The law bars politicians from accepting more than 1.5 million yen in political donations from a single individual or corporation in a year.

Testifying as a sworn witness from his hospital bed last month, Kanemaru, 78, said he does not know how the money was distributed because Haibara was in charge of funds.

But appearing before the Diet on Friday to testify as a sworn witness, Haibara, 48, refused to reveal how he distributed the secret donation, citing his right to remain silent because he faces interrogation by prosecutors on the issue.

Prosecutors are questioning the former aide on suspicion of violating the political funds control law and the income tax law.

The prosecutors have initiated questioning on the scandal following accusations by Social Democratic Party members and lawyers' groups that the candidates had violated the political funds control law and income tax law.

The prosecutors have so far questioned Kanemaru, Haibara and unidentified defeated candidates from the Takeshita faction who stood in the general election, but have been unable to unravel the whereabouts of the distribution of the 500 million yen.

SDP To Pursue Government Dedicated to Reform

OW1512132992 Tokyo KYODO in English 1124 GMT 15 Dec 92

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 15 KYODO—The leadership of Japan's No. 1 opposition Social Democratic Party (SDP), decided Tuesday to seek the formation of a government aimed at implementing emergency political reform even if that means allying with reform-minded conservatives, SDP officials said.

The decisions, made at an extraordinary meeting of the party's Central Executive Committee, are part of a draft plan for the SDP's activities for the immediate future, the officials said.

The SDP will further discuss the new action plan at a Central Committee meeting scheduled for next Monday on the basis of the draft, they said.

Under the draft plan, the SDP will press the cabinet of Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa to resign en masse for its passive attitude toward a thoroughgoing investigation of the Tokyo Sagawa Kyubin money-and-mob scandal.

The plan also calls for the dissolution of the House of Representatives for a general election early in the next regular Diet session, which begins in January.

To establish the envisaged emergency political reform government, the draft plan calls for the banding together of forces from across the political spectrum.

In an about-face from its earlier stance of seeking ties only with centrist forces, the SDP party will also call on reform-minded conservative forces, according to the draft.

The party will "first and foremost open dialogue on policy and administration with political parties or groupings, private organizations and individuals" with which it "can see eye to eye," the draft plan says.

The draft plan also notes the need for the SDP to exert leadership in an active and positive manner and thus serve as a core force of a possible political realignment against the backdrop of the breakup of the once-dominant faction within the ruling Liberal Democratic Party and rising calls from labor circles for a new party.

As for electoral system reform, the SDP plan proposes that a reform plan embodying both single seat constituencies and a proportional representation system be drafted early.

"With the understanding that the current multiseat constituency system stands at a critical point, the SDP will push for debate on what the new electoral system should be like, particularly centering on the proportional representation system...," the draft plan says.

EPA Chief, Economists Discuss Recovery 6 Dec

OW1412124292

[Editorial Report] Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese at 0000 GMT on 6 December carries a 60-minute panel discussion entitled "When Will We See the Light?—Viewing the Economy."

The program, which focuses on Japan's current economic condition, is moderated by NHK commentator Takehiko Mizuki. Those participating in the panel discussion are Tsuyoshi Noda, director general of the Economic Planning Agency (EPA); Kazuaki Harada, deputy director of the Sanwa Research Institute; Yoshihiko Miyauchi, president of the Orix Corp.; and Motoshige Ito, an associate professor at Tokyo University.

Beginning with a discussion of the stagnant domestic economy, moderator Mizuki asks the participants how they interpret the government's 3 December announcement that Japan's GNP for the July-September period fell 0.4 percent from the previous quarter, reflecting an annual growth rate of only 1.6 percent. Harada, an economist with the Sanwa Bank Group, says the GNP figures show the seriousness of Japan's economic situation, but he predicts that the GNP for October-December period will improve "significantly." Miyauchi insists that, speaking for business, he cannot agree with Harada's optimistic view, and he adds that he does not foresee the economy bouncing back in the next quarter. Professor Ito says that although recent economic indicators do not seem so bad, people in general, especially those in business, feel the situation is very acute. He goes on to say it is very difficult to make a prediction for next year's economic outlook.

The EPA's Noda remarks: "Basically, I feel the same way as Mr. Harada. In terms of the gross domestic product—the so-called GDP—we have had negative growth since the April-June quarter. This being the case, it can be said that the negative growth widened a bit more in the July-September quarter. Nevertheless, I suspect the economy is, more or less, at the bottom of its decline. We have front-loaded a considerable part of the public works projects. It appears now, however, that the effects of this have failed to appear in the July-September quarter. Instead, they will become evident in the October-December quarter, and, at worst, the effects of the economic stimulus package will show up considerably during the January-March period."

The EPA director is cautious about giving a clear-cut economic forecast for 1993. He says: "Our current situation shows that good and bad economic indicators are intermingled and are tugging at one another. These conditions do not facilitate an easy judgment. Nevertheless, inventory readjustments have been carried out over the past year, and these are more than half complete. We are beginning to see our final goal. I am not saying that the goal is fully in sight, but part of it is starting to become visible. Viewed from this perspective, we can predict that production will rise early next year. Basically, however, we do not yet see conditions required for improvement in the most crucial areas—namely, consumption and capital investment. This being the case, the recovery of production, although it is coming, will not be a high-speed recovery."

Mizuki notes that Prime Minister Miyazawa recently said at a Diet interpellation session that the July-September quarter marked a turning point. Mizuki then asks Noda whether he concurs with Miyazawa's assessment.

Noda replies: "The prime minister has said that there is a need to carefully analyze the situation from various viewpoints. Nevertheless, he did say that although a public declaration cannot be made, if you consider the GNP figures, it is possible to see the quarter as a turning point. That is all he said."

In further discussing the state of the economy, as well as the question of whether Japan's economy has indeed bottomed out and will begin to recover, Noda says: "The economic peaks and valleys have been analyzed from various angles and in a rather professional manner by the Economic Statistics Review Committee. In general, when people say the economy is good or bad, they talk about it from a microeconomic viewpoint. This means that people in the world of business will declare they have witnessed an economic turning point when their profits start to improve or when their sales begin to grow. If this is the basis for defining a turning point, then the reality is that these conditions do not yet exist, and they may not exist early next year, either. Most likely, these conditions will be seen some time after spring. This is my feeling."

The discussion then turns to the topic of the projected effects of the 10.7-million yen (Y) economic stimulus package that will be made available when the Diet passes a supplementary budget.

EPA Director General Noda goes on to outline the causes of the current recession. Noda says: "It is cyclical in nature, but there is an additional problem—that the economy is burdened by a sharp decline in the value of assets. Now, we must ask: In what way and how seriously will the decline in the value of assets impact the real economy. We have never faced this type of situation before. In terms of these conditions, the sector to suffer the first direct blow from them was the banking industry. To make matters worse, the banking industry was hit at a time when it was opening its market. Consequently, the decline in the value of assets had a considerable impact on banking institutions' balance sheets."

The EPA chief goes on to explain the impact the decline in the value of assets has had on the industrial sector, saying that it has made it difficult for businesses to borrow money because assets they provide as collateral have fallen in price. Noda says another question to keep in mind is whether land prices will continue to drop.

Noda says: "The question is this: In the future, how much further will land prices fall? Any prediction for the future economy really depends on how one responds to this question."

In further discussions on how the current recession differs from previous ones, panelists dwell on the problem of the deflation of asset values, as well as the aftershocks experienced within the banking industry.

Asked to offer his views on the problem, Noda says: "Near the end of August, we prepared a comprehensive economic stimulus package. As you know, the package outlined two major goals: One was to create additional demand by making Y10.7 trillion available. The other was to prop up the banking industry. There had been many signs of instability in the banking industry during the months between June and August. Also, stock prices were plunging as well. Because we could not tolerate a situation in which the banking system would lose the people's trust, we had to put various support measures into force."

Noda continues: "Although the measures cannot be calculated in terms of an exact quantity, they have played a role in stimulating the economy. I believe they directly prompted stock prices to rise."

Orix President Miyauchi disagrees with Noda on this point, and he questions the overall success of the support measures. Miyauchi says that he thinks it will be impossible to raise stock prices and simultaneously reduce land prices.

Noda, however, defends the government's position: "Admittedly, during the time of the so-called bubble economy, land prices jumped two to three times, and this increase was abnormal. If this had continued, there was the danger that the entire national economy could have collapsed, and not just the economy of the salaried worker. We are not saying the lower the land prices the better, but it is desirable that land prices should rise approximately in proportion with the GNP growth rate. Since that time, land prices have come down considerably. Nevertheless, I do not think land prices will continue to fall over the next several years as they are doing now." Noda adds: "As far as the land prices are concerned, we can safely say that they have gone over a hill."

Professor Ito admits the bubble economy caused problems for the nation, but he also warns against taking hasty steps to return the economy to where it was before the bubbles were formed.

Noda agrees with this view, and he notes that Japan's economy needs to cross a "gully" first. He says: "The goal for our nation is to become a life-style superpower. Businesses also need to be structured in such a way that they can manage on moderate sales; they have to change from what they are today, when only very high sales can secure profits."

Noda adds: "The private sector, including both manufacturing and nonmanfuacturing businesses, is now doing all it can to reform its management. As such, the government needs to support it in these efforts. On the other hand, if all businesses pursue their restructuring efforts, this will lead to weakened demand. That part of the problem will be dealt with by the measure encouraging demand, using the Y10.7 trillion. Generally speaking, this is the idea."

Moderator Mizuki then turns the discussions to economic prospects for 1993, noting that most projections for next year's economic growth range from 1-3 percent.

Asked to give their views on this topic, Harada, Miyauchi, and Ito agree that the economic outlook for 1993 appears gloomy. When his turn comes, Noda says: "From the perspective of those in business management, there are many headaches. All told, Japanese businesses will have to reimburse Y5 trillion more in equity finance next year than this year. On the other hand, as I said earlier in reference to the comprehensive economic stimulus package, the public works projects are being implemented. They will create demand, and, in turn, they will become elements that encourage consumption."

Noda adds: "Speaking about housing construction, there are about 1.4 million units being built. This trend is healthy. Meanwhile, shipments of merchandise are not as encouraging as they should be. Production is being held to a level under the level of shipments because of efforts to readjust inventories. But once inventories are readjusted to an appropriate level, production will return at least to the level of shipments. I admit that shipments are not growing at a high rate of speed yet, but I think it would be too pessimistic to say the situation will only worsen."

Noda notes once again that individual businesses may continue to feel pinches in microeconomic terms, and this problem will be compounded by the fact that they do not want to dismiss employees even when business is slack. Also, he says, businesses want to continue making capital investments. Nevertheless, Noda insists that in macroeconomic terms, or in terms of overall economic growth, the nation's economic curve is looking up in the second half of this year.

The moderator refers to reports that the EPA now thinks economic growth will reach about 3 percent, and he asks Noda to comment on these reports. Noda disputes such reports, saying that work on specific numbers is "only just beginning." He refuses to give his own number for projected economic growth, insisting it would be "very inappropriate for me to make a prediction now."

Miyauchi and Harada mention the problem of high capital costs Japanese corporations are being forced to bear today at a time when they have to repay bank loans they obtained some years back to make capital investments. Professor Ito asks Noda whether the government might not help Japanese businesses by reducing investment and income taxes.

Noda notes that the current economic stimulus package contains a measure to reduce investment taxes, but he refuses to give his support to the suggestion of reducing income taxes. Instead, he notes that a number of other factors need to be considered before a decision is made concerning such taxes.

Harada follows by saying preferential tax treatment on housing construction could be effective in encouraging demand for more spacious, quality housing for the general public. Noda agrees with this in principle, and he says that his office is working on next year's budget with this in mind, even though it will take some time to decide what kinds of preferential treatment should be provided. He says this matter is being considered by relevant government councils and by the Liberal Democratic Party.

Noting the upcoming inauguration of the Clinton government in the United States, Professor Ito says he thinks that it will be very important for Japan "to increase its imports and reduce its current account surpluses by encouraging domestic demand." Noda says: "I agree with you completely." The 60-minute NHK broadcast of the panel discussion concludes at 0100 on 6 December.

EPA Chief Aiming at Rapid Economic Recovery

OW1212094492 Tokyo KYODO in English 0911 GMT 12 Dec 92

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 12 KYODO—New Economic Planning Agency (EPA) chief Hajime Funada said Saturday the government is aiming at a rapid economic recovery by steadily carrying out and following up the just approved supplementary budget for fiscal 1992.

Funada, who was appointed Friday as director general of the agency, was speaking at a press conference after the first cabinet meeting of the reshuffled cabinet under Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa.

Funada said the government will decide December 20 on its economic forecast for fiscal 1993, which starts next April, without specifying the estimated economic growth rate for the fiscal year.

He also showed a cautious stance on an income tax cut, saying that alternative revenue sources and the effectiveness of an income tax cut in boosting the economy must be considered.

Says Housing 'Thorny Issue'

OW1212104292 Tokyo KYODO in English 1031 GMT 12 Dec 92

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 12 KYODO—The new Economic Planning Agency [EPA] chief, Hajime Funada, said Saturday it would take a little more time before there is an economic recovery.

"The situation is such that good and bad economic data are playing a tug-of-war. So it would last a little more with the economy crawling along the bottom," Funada said in an interview with KYODO News Service.

Asked when the economy will pick up steam, Funada said that a recovery may be observed in the first half of the next fiscal year at the earliest, or in the second half at the latest.

Pressed for comment on a five-year government program to give Japan a lifestyle equal to its economic power, Funada said it is important to make government spending and systems oriented to consumers instead of producers.

Funada acknowledged that it may be difficult to bring about Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa's pledge to make it possible to purchase a home for the equivalent of five years of income by the average worker.

"The housing problem is a thorny issue. But I will make efforts as much as possible to achieve the target," he said.

Discusses Economy's Condition

OW1412171992 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 0900 GMT 13 Dec 92

[Editorial Report] Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese in its "Economic Magazine" program at 0900 GMT on 13 December carries a live eight-minute interview with Hajime Funada, the newly appointed director general of the Economic Planning Agency (EPA). Newscaster Takanobu Fujita and announcer Katsuko Arie are the interviewers in the program.

When asked by Arie to comment on the current economic situation, the new EPA chief says: "We feel the situation is difficult. In August, we announced the launching of comprehensive economic stimulus measures, and since then we have been implementing these measures in a steadfast manner. Also, the supplementary budget was passed by the Diet two days ago, and, in turn, it has gone into effect. I think the effects of the economic measures will start to manifest themselves soon, but, maybe, we may have to give them a little more time. It is possible that the current situation in which the economy seems to have bottomed out will continue a little longer. Nevertheless, there are signs that things are getting better—at least, little by little—as seen from some economic indicators. Therefore, I think it will not be too long before we see improvement. This is how I feel."

Newscaster Fujita notes that a negative economic growth rate was registered during the July-September period, and he asks Funada to forecast Japan's annual economic growth rate for 1993.

Funada, saying that "an EPA chief is not supposed to give figures in advance," adds: "Indeed the present situation is difficult, but the measures I have just told you about will be carried out faithfully. This activity, I am sure, will make the real economy turn upward."

Fujita then asks the director general to outline those areas that he will emphasize in his future economic policy. In response, the EPA director general says: "No doubt, the recovery of the economy comes first. Of course, the supplementary budget and the economic stimulus package are tailored to that purpose. A large number of public works projects have been started, and more will come. It may be important to improve the industrial production base, but more important in the future will be investments in the areas which are closely related to the people's life. After all, we still have to carry out the five-year plan for improving the people's quality of life. We will need to emphasize projects that will contribute to improving and accumulating public capital that can be readily useful to daily life."

Fujita raises the question of the disparity between the government and private sector views on the current state of the economy, reminding Funada about the private sector's criticism that the government has been far too optimistic.

Funada responds: "Currently, there is not that much of a gap between the government and the private sector in terms of recognizing that the current state of the economy is very severe." He adds, however: "There were some differences of views in the summer and in the autumn of last year."

In describing the current economic recession, Funada insists that the recession was not simply engendered by regular economic cycles. He says: "In this recession, there is another element previously unknown to us. There was the bursting or collapsing of the bubble economy, which was followed by the phenomenon of assets dropping sharply in value. The subsequent situation resulted in a decline in banking institutions' abilities to make loans to companies. In the current economy, this problem has been compounded by the devaluation of assets."

The newscaster recalls that Fukuda was general secretary of the Special Research Council on Japan's International Contributions. After noting that peacekeeping operations provide one way for Japan to make international contributions, he asks Funada if he does not agree that the opening of Japan's markets is another important way to contribute to the international community.

Funada answers: "I agree with you completely. While Japan's economy itself has become so large, it also has come to hold a very large position in the world economy. Japan's economic condition must improve and must play the role of a push-cart—if not an engine—for the world economy. Besides, Japan holds an important position in the realm of free trade. Therefore, it is very important that Japan opens its markets, thereby growing and prospering together with many other nations of the world."

The eight-minute interview closes with the newscaster questioning Funada about political reform. He asks: "What would you do to regain the people's trust in Japanese politics?" Funada replies: "Political reform needs to be carried out. A small constituency system should be adopted, of course, with some representational constituency features added."

Attention to Economy in FY 1993 Budget Urged

OW1512111192 Tokyo KYODO in English 0722 GMT 15 Dec 92

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 15 KYODO—The government should place due consideration on economic conditions when drawing up the budget for fiscal 1993 starting next April, a government advisory council said Tuesday [15 December].

In a report submitted to Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa, the economic council urged the government to prepare a budget that achieves sustainable economic growth, without inflation, led by domestic demand.

Reviewing the progress of the fiscal 1992-1996 plan launched in late June for better quality of life, the report said the nation's economy remains sluggish under an adjustment phase after real economic conditions were badly affected by the collapse of the "bubble economy."

The panel also said that with the expanding current account surplus, which amounted to 3.1 percent of its nominal gross national product during the first half of fiscal 1992, Japan should continue making efforts to attain an internationally harmonized balance with foreign nations.

The panel proposed four priority tasks to create a higher quality of life for the public, dubbed "Lifestyle Superpower (Seikatsu Taikoku)."

First, the report stressed the need to further cut annual working hours from 2,008 hours in fiscal 1991 to 1,800 hours.

It expects the government to submit to the next regular Diet session a bill revising the labor standards law to adopt 40 working hours per week and a hike in the legal overtime allowance rate.

Second, the government should promote comprehensive land policies which will enable workers to buy houses of good quality near large cities at prices around five times their annual income, it said.

Despite a recent downward or leveling-off trend, land prices remain still too high, it said.

As the third priority task, the report urged the government to improve social infrastructure closely related to daily life.

Lastly, the report urged consistency in policies on energy and resources and the global environment.

Finance Minister Rejects Debt-Financing Bonds

OW1512042792 Tokyo KYODO in English 0306 GMT 15 Dec 92

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 15 KYODO—Finance Minister Yoshiro Hayashi said Tuesday the government should not in principle issue debt-financing bonds, dismissing a proposal by a senior politician of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) to use them to finance tax cuts.

Hayashi told a news conference after a regular cabinet meeting, "as the fiscal principle, debt-financing bonds should not be issued."

He was replying to a question about the remarks by Hiroshi Mitsuzuka, head of the LDP Policy Affairs Research Council, who said in a newspaper interview Monday that the government should cut taxes after the fiscal 1993 budget passes the Diet if the economy doesn't pick up.

Mitsuzuka suggested that the government issue bonds to finance the tax cuts.

Hayashi also said Japan's growing trade surplus is "an issue that should be given serious consideration," although he did not mention specific steps to curb it.

The Finance Ministry reported on Monday that Japan's customs-cleared trade surplus for January to November totaled 95.9 billion dollars, already far above the past record.

Asked if he will try to boost the yen against the dollar to reduce the surplus, Hayashi said, "the question is how to ensure that a stronger yen won't hurt the domestic economy."

He said Japan and the United States should hold talks on currency policy coordination.

Finance Ministry Reports Surge in Trade Surplus

OW1412082892 Tokyo KYODO in English 0746 GMT 14 Dec 92

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 14 KYODO—Japan's merchandise trade surplus surged 18.5 percent in November to 7,602 million dollars, as the recent pattern of brisk exports and sluggish imports remained intact, the Finance Ministry said Monday.

It was the 23rd consecutive year-on-year increase in the trade surplus as measured when goods clear customs. The surplus gained 51.3 percent in October.

Exports rose 0.7 percent in November to 27,279 million dollars, following a 9.2 percent increase in the previous month.

Imports dropped 4.8 percent to 19,678 million dollars, following a 5.1 percent fall in October.

The latest data elicited no sighs of relief from Japan's trade officials, who are concerned about a possible resurgence of trade friction with the United States when the new administration of President-elect Bill Clinton takes office in January.

Japan's aggregate trade surplus so far in 1992 has already surpassed the previous peak set in 1986.

Economists are predicting that the trade surplus will grow even more in 1993 unless the government takes additional steps to stimulate the economy and jack up domestic demand.

Takunori Kobayashi, an economist at the Daiwa Institute of Research, predicts the surplus will total 135 billion dollars in fiscal 1992, which ends on March 31, 1993, and a further expansion in fiscal 1993.

The November surplus of 7,601.6 million dollars was the largest reading for the month.

Japan's trade surplus with the United States in November rose 10.3 percent to 3,850.5 million dollars.

The growth of exports, the 30th in a row, was small compared with the expansion pace in recent months, but economists said it does not indicate any change in trend.

Atsushi Miyawaki, a senior economist at the Japan Research Institute, said exports will become even stronger in coming months as the U.S. economy quickens the pace of recovery, and the Asian economies, buoyed by the U.S. upturn, also pick up.

Japan's overall surplus amassed during the January-November period amounted to 95.9 billion dollars, up 41.6 percent from the same period last year, and far above the past record of 82.7 billion dollars in 1986.

Imports will continue to be very weak as the sluggish business conditions put a heavy lid on domestic demand, analysts said.

"We won't see a major recovery in imports for many, many months unless more measures to boost the demand are introduced," said Daiwa Institute's Kobayashi.

Imports were especially soft in November for steel, autos, and aircraft.

Exports were brisk for computers and ships, but they were dragged down by declines in video recorders, audio sets, and passenger cars.

Exports declined 6.0 percent in November in terms of volume, but Japanese companies are shifting their mainstay exports to higher-priced products to counter the voluntary volume restraints and the pressure from trade partners, said Kobayashi.

"If Toyota exports a Lexus (model) instead of a Corolla, they get three times the money with the same volume of exports," he said.

Japan's bilateral surplus with the European Community dropped 15.5 percent to 1,551.4 million dollars, while the surplus with other Asian countries grew 18.0 percent to 3,133.3 million dollars.

Murakami: Foreigners 'Not Interested in Working'

OW1412103692 Tokyo KYODO in English 1018 GMT 14 Dec 92

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 14 KYODO—Labor Minister Masakuni Murakami said Monday that foreigners are not interested in working which is why they lag economically far behind Japan and Germany.

"Foreigners do not work. That is why they are economically being left far behind Japan and Germany," Murakami told a news conference.

The labor minister also said he feels torn between the shortening of working hours and his own intensity of belief in working.

"As for the reduction (of working hours), I am facing a trade-off, because I see working as a virtue," Murakami said.

Elected to the House of Councillors under the proportional representation system, the 60-year-old Murakami is known as a conservative hard-liner. He was formerly chairman of the upper house Diet Affairs Committee.

He has been returned to the upper house three times since he was first elected in 1980.

Within the ruling Liberal Democratic Party, Murakami belongs to the third-largest faction led by Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe.

Retracts Comment, Views Work Ethics

OW1412132492 Tokyo KYODO in English 1243 GMT 14 Dec 92

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 14 KYODO—Diverse work ethics have caused gaps in economic strength among the Group of Seven (G-7) major industrial nations, Labor Minister Masakuni Murakami said Monday.

"Compared with people in Japan and Germany, those in other G-7 countries do not work. This results in economic gaps among them," Murakami told a news conference.

"The Japanese people have a traditional philosophy of being fond of work," he said, adding that there is a need to attach more importance to work, rather than enjoying leisure.

Murakami, however, later retracted the remarks that people in G-7 countries other than Japan and Germany do not work and said he meant to say they have work ethics different from that of Japan and Germany.

The labor minister also said he feels torn between the shortening of working hours and his own intensity of belief in work, an indication that he is cautious about the amendment of the labor standards law aimed at shifting to a 40-hour work week system.

Saying he sees work as a virtue, Murakami said, "On the government-led drive to shorten (working hours), I am facing a trade-off between my position as labor minister and my own philosophy."

He also said he will keep a close eye to the situation where small and medium size companies cannot cut work hours of their employees.

"There are numerous small and medium size companies in Japan underpinning the nation's economic strength. It is impossible to reduce working hours without paying enough attention to such concerns," he said.

Murakami then turned against criticism from the international community on Japan's "workaholic nature," saying, "Foreign countries criticize Japan for our workaholic nature. But do we need to comply with a hundred requests from foreign countries?"

"Even if I am told to push for the shortened work hours, it doesn't ring a bell to me," he said.

On the issue of the presence of illegal foreign workers in Japan, Murakami said it is important to have them return to their countries.

"The people who illegally entered Japan must leave. For the sake of the foreigners who came to Japan (legally) seriously in quest of jobs, we should take proper action (against illegal workers)," he said.

Elected to the House of Councillors under the proportional representation system, the 60-year-old Murakami is known as a conservative hard-liner.

He was formerly chairman of the Diet Affairs Committee of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party in the upper chamber.

He has been returned to the upper house three times since he was first elected in 1980.

Within the governing conservative party, Murakami belongs to the third-largest faction led by Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe.

Government Spokesman Comments

OW1512114092 Tokyo KYODO in English 1112 GMT 15 Dec 92

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 15 KYODO—Top government spokesman Yohei Kono said Tuesday Labor Minister Masakuni Murakami has been correct to retract remarks that Japanese and Germans work harder than citizens of other industrialized countries.

"It is hardly necessary to say we want (cabinet members) to avoid comments that will invite misunderstandings. The labor minister is conscious of this and that is why he issued a correction," Kono told a regular news conference.

Murakami has not intended to analyze "whether or not there is a difference" in working habits, Kono said.

He suggested new ministers appointed Friday in a cabinet reshuffle may need some time to get accustomed to the limitations on expressing personal opinions that accompany high-profile political positions.

Murakami, in retracting his comment Monday, said he has intended to say work ethics in other Group of Seven (G-7) countries are different from those embraced in Japan and Germany.

He sought to further clarify his comments Tuesday by explaining that Japan's industriousness has enabled this resource-poor nation to develop economically.

"It is true that Japanese working hours are long compared with foreign countries but I may have created some misunderstanding in my choice of words," Murakami told reporters.

He also reiterated praise for the traditional Japanese work ethic and loyalty to employers that has characterized postwar Japanese society.

"I face a personal dilemma" over revising the Labor Standards Law downward from the current 44 to 46-hour work week to a 40-hour work week, Murakami said.

"I think it is a virtue to be proud of one's work and to love one's company. I hope that we do not lose our spirit of hard work," he said.

THE WASHINGTON POSt in a story published Tuesday said Murakami's views reflect a "widely held view in Japan that America is a nation in decline, beset by social problems and burdened with a population that is unwilling or unable to do quality work."

It said some Japanese commentators argue that U.S. President-Elect Bill Clinton has expressed similar views. The article quoted Clinton, speaking in October on trade competition, as saying, "Other countries, like Germany and Japan, have quite frankly managed this problem much better by maintaining a more highly skilled work force, not just among their university graduates, but up and down the line among all their workers."

Murakami's comment was reminiscent of critical remarks about American work habits early this year by Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa and House of Representatives Speaker Yoshio Sakurauchi that unleashed an angry response from the American public.

Balance Between Environment, Economics Viewed

932A0058A Tokyo TSUSAN JANARU in Japanese Sep 92 pp 8-13

[Roundtable discussion with Yoichi Kaya (professor, Tokyo University), Hiroto Oyama (professor, Tokyo International University), and Tomio Tsutsumi (director of MITI's Industrial Location and Environment Protection Bureau): "The Global Environment Trinity: Environment, Energy, and Economic Growth"]

[Text] To live comfortably in a beautiful natural environment—is the coexistence of global environment protection and economic growth really possible? This already is an urgent task which mankind together must conquer with wisdom.

The world is now casting fervent eyes at Japan which has much environment protection and energy-saving technology know-how.

The true value of "Japan within the world" now is being questioned by environmental problems.

How To Undertake a Solution to Global Environment Problems

Can global environment protection and economic development be made to coexist somehow? Japan has a large role to play in the world.

Significance of Earth Summit

[Tsutsumi] Today, I kindly ask you to talk from various viewpoints about points of issue concerning the global environment.

A while ago, the so-called Earth Summit or "UN Conference on Environment and Development" where government representatives from 170 countries participated was conducted in Rio de Janeiro. At this conference, there was agreement and adoption of the Rio Declaration, Agenda 21, forest principles, and additionally, two treaties. Professor Kaya, how do you evaluate the success of this Earth Summit?

[Kaya] It was to the extent that the leaders of many nations gathered and were able to reach agreement on several matters. Particularly, there was a lot of discord about the details of the framework treaty concerning weather fluctuations, but more than 150 countries signed it in the end. The first principle is that as many nations as possible participate insofar as this indeed is really a global problem, and I believe that the ability to accomplish that was a very great success.

However, I have the impression that nothing beyond existing attitudes appeared concerning the environmental problems of developing nations such as the decrease in tropical rain forests and desertification. The problems of decrease in forests and desertification are very deeply related to the lives of residents in developing nations. It has been said for some time that the promotion of economic development in developing countries is the best way to improve this, but if the problem is to be solved, we ultimately return to the problems of how to aid developing nations or how to develop developing countries.

The logic is indeed correct. However, taken from a different end, I believe that the problem will not be solved unless we deal with the decrease in forests and desertification. Recently, there have several attempts in that direction, but it is unfortunate that they have not borne fruit.

[Oyama] We have entered a period when action will soon be necessary on global environment problems, but there has not been much action recently as we continue to be entangled in a debate where it seems there is approval in general but opposition on particulars. The United States has not shown a very aggressive stance, and it seems that it is dragging its feet.

[Tsutsumi] An important concept at the recent Earth Summit was sustainable development. I believe that this indicates the idea that we must strive for the coexistence of economic growth and environment protection. On the other hand, there also is the idea, as in the report *Limits to Growth* by the Rome Club, that since there are limits to the capability of regenerating the Earth's environment, economic growth probably must yield the road. What do you think of these two views?

[Oyama] I believe that the debate will probably continue in the future also. However, I cannot be inclined very much toward such thinking as "even negative growth for the sake of the environment cannot be helped" or "let the GNP be hanged" that often has been spoken in the past. That is to say, men will work with hope when future prospects are good, but they will inevitably begin to kill each other if the prospects disappear or if luck goes against them.

In that sense, I feel that the words sustainable growth rather than development is more preferable. In other words, how far is growth possible while including the negative elements of global environment in our thinking. Hasn't it become a situation where we will be searching in the future for the limits in that area?

[Kaya] It may be my interpretation of the word sustainability, but in the case of developing countries, I believe that it means that development and environment are complementary and parallel. Therefore, I believe that the reason that the expression sustainable growth has appeared is that we should be searching for a way to develop the two together.

In reality, however, there is the aspect of combining improvement in the environment and economic development in a certain scope as with developing countries, and there also are contradictions such as the short-term carbon dioxide measures of advanced nations. Therefore, it is difficult to discuss these two in the same way, and isn't sustainable growth in a real sense keeping both of these in mind and searching for the best way to use them properly?

Urgency of Measures

[Tsutsumi] I believe that the concept came out at the recent conference that we should adopt the necessary measures concerning the problem of global warming, even if they exceed the scope of previous scientific knowledge. Professor Kaya, do you think that Japan or the world should have the attitude of adopting some measures at this stage where there is insufficient scientific knowledge?

[Kaya] There has been much debate about this problem in the United States also, but some people misinterpret the debate as uncertainty and express doubt even about the two facts of the physical phenomena of the greenhouse effect and in addition, the increase in carbon dioxide. However, this is complete illusion and these two are phenomena that anyone can perceive.

Therefore, as to what the uncertainty is, if the current situation continues, considered from the physical balance of the earth, it is certain that changes in the weather will occur. However, there is much uncertainty about the extent of the changes that will occur or how it will change, and we do not know. However, it is only certain that there are factors that will change it and mechanisms that will change it. Thus, the fact that living creatures including man will suffer such sudden changes is a source of calamity with a very big minus. Therefore, I think that it can be said that we should adopt measures to stem the changes.

So, should we adopt measures quickly because of the high possibility that very bad things will occur, or should we watch the situation a little more even though there may be some loss by not doing so? This is divided into an U.S. type and a European type of judgment. I believe that uncertainty is at work about the extent of adopting measures.

[Oyama] Last year, there was an international conference on global warming in Atlanta. I went with Professor Kaya and the same debate was flying about at that time. The final blow was the remark that "there is no time because they say it is warming up." However, how far to take measures is a difficult matter, and, naturally, policy accompanied by sacrifice must be made. The debate on uncertainty will probably steam up again about that.

[Tsutsumi] From our standpoint of being in charge of policy, we are very aware of the timespan. We are being pressed to make a very hard choice on the tempo of adopting measures.

[Oyama] Last year, I told my students, "We in my generation will probably be beyond the grave without seeing the appearance of harm. That will not be the case with your generation." This year, however, I have changed the expression to "It will be dangerous even in my generation." That is to say, we have learned from the investigations of the ozone layer problem by NASA [National Aeronautics and Space Administration] that the ozone layer is decreasing not only at the South Pole, but also in areas north of 50 degrees north latitude. If it keeps on this way, the situation probably will appear where a hole in the ozone layer really opens up in a few more years. Fifty degrees north latitude is about between the United States and Canada. The majority of Europe is also involved. Since the northern tip of Hokkaido is involved in Japan, our concern is not very high, but considerable concern has been gathered internationally. Therefore, there is a sense that some measures must be taken about the ozone layer problem.

[Kaya] There is very strong determination to deal with the fluorocarbon problem in the United States also. Since there is no such thing about the warming problem, however, there are still many people with strong opinions.

All-Out War on Carbon Dioxide Problem

[Tsutsumi] Are the prospects good technology-wise in the next 10 years regarding the warming problem?

[Oyama] I think that they are for fluorocarbons so long as money is spent in the development of a substitute substance. However, I wonder about carbon dioxide.

[Kaya] The fluorocarbon and carbon dioxide problems are fundamentally different. In short, carbon dioxide is a product that is close to a necessity in modern civilization. If this is to be reduced, we must change the road we previously have traveled. Therefore, the technology in which an answer will appear is impossible in 10 years. I call it an all-out war, but I believe that the carbon dioxide problem is the type in which an answer will appear for the first time by searching for all kinds of possibilities over the long-term.

[Tsutsumi] The Ministry of International Trade and Industry [MITI] has published the earth regeneration program, but for the time being, while further promoting the development and introduction of new energy such as nuclear power, I believe that it is necessary to devise systematic, broad-ranging measures to pour effort into the development of new technology for solidification and effective use of carbon dioxide.

[Kaya] Speaking of such technology aspects, there is an answer if various things are combined together. I believe that the prospects are good in 10 years. However, if we are searching for something that will save the whole world, that will not be easily done.

[Oyama] As Professor Kaya says, the carbon dioxide problem is a matter that truly involves the foundation of modern civilization. In short, it is a matter of how we consider a civilization that is realized by burning things. I sometimes think that we could have coal more efficiently burned in China, for example, by skillfully using Japanese technology. If Japan lent its power in such things, much greater results would probably be produced than by saving energy such as squeezing dry towels in Japan.

[Kaya] Considered on the basis of cost, helping developing countries save energy is by far more efficient. However, the problem is how to produce results in a real sense. It is probably no good to aid just with funds. That is to say, it inevitably will end up harming the sovereignty of the other country if too much is committed.

[Oyama] A head of a heavy-industry corporation said that if we more coal were burned in China or if desulfurization or denitrification were conducted regularly, it would be a situation where we couldn't help just spending money if such a thing were done over there. Wouldn't measures for removal at a more lower level be possible without considering the high level of 99 percent removal such as Japan? However, such a thing cannot be skillfully done technologywise. In other words, the costs will not go down even if the level of removal technology, which is reaching 100 percent, is dropped. He was convinced when it was said that technology is such a thing.

[Tsutsumi] We are now discussing among us the intermediate technology theory. Since it would not go well at all if the highest desulfurization facilities in Japan were installed in China, wouldn't it be best if you could make one that would remove about two-thirds and cost one-third and transfer that?

[Kaya] I have felt recently that, since Japan is very advanced in pollution-prevention technology, shouldn't we transfer such technology to other countries? If they did not import the pollution prevention equipment from Japan, but produced such facilities in their own country by the transfer of technology, it could be done cheaply. Particularly in the case of China, I think that it would be important to have them make it themselves if we try to have them put in specific pollution prevention facilities or equipment with good efficiency.

Japan's Role in the Global Environment

[Tsutsumi] As it came up in the conversation a while ago, the carbon dioxide problem and modern civilization have an opposite-sides-of-the-coin relationship. Within that, will life as it is now be able to continue in the future or are changes on a large scale sought?

[Oyama] I think that we are entering an age when Japan also should reconsider the pursuit of material wealth. Pursuing material wealth while curbing carbon dioxide on the other hand—is there such a palatable way? Corporations have great concern about this problem and the feeling is spreading that a corporation which does not think about the environment will probably not survive in the 21st century.

[Kaya] Man advances and the reason why man advances is because he wants to enjoy considerable comfort and there is no feeling that enjoying comfort in itself is bad. With such an environment situation, however, I think that we should have the sense that when man enjoys rather great comfort, he will pay the price.

So, thinking as a person dealing in technology, we should consider as much as possible mechanisms so that we will not end up doing unnecessary things technology-wise. To give a simple example, this many electric lights are turned on in this room. Since it is cloudy outside, it should be about this bright, but if the sky were clear, we would not need so much. Therefore, it is technically possible to change to a way of turning on lighting in a room to match the degree of brightness outside.

In that sense, there are devices that will save energy technically in various places even without us being aware of it. Since we do not have such devices despite them reducing energy without any inconvenience at all, I believe that there still is room to save energy.

[Oyama] We probably should put our effort into considering mechanisms that will save energy without our realizing it.

[Kaya] At the same time as considering mechanisms, the aspect remains that we will not progress unless we devise measures to promote more energy savings.

[Oyama] My way of thinking is that we should consider saving energy as a social system by combining the technology that we have now, not by moral preaching or raising energy prices.

[Tsutsumi] Finally, what do you think that Japan should put more effort in doing in the process of undertaking environment problems?

[Kaya] One is to save energy, convert fuels, and in addition, create a way of living to be on the scale of other advanced nations or moderately advanced nations. Another is that, because we embrace nearby nations with great populations such as China and Indonesia, Japan schould cooperate in such countries to create energy-saving type living systems and industrial systems. I think that the method of that cooperation, as mentioned a while ago, must be assistance of a type that centers on the other party where we give cooperation focusing on the independent efforts over there and not simply hand over money or just transfer technology.

[Oyama] There are a considerable number of persons dealing in technology who worked hard in the pollution age of the past in Japan, and these people now are entering the age of retirement. Let's organize such people and have those who desire it continue on in a form something like a global environment team. Shouldn't the nation in the future think a little about backing them up?

[Kaya] There is a need to consider a backup system for young people also, for example, the people who have gone to developing countries and are employed in cooperative activities. Even though they resign once from the company and go abroad, give them a position promptly when they return or give high prestige to those who go to developing countries. I believe that such things are important.

[Tsutsumi] In the United States, if you volunteer to do philanthropic work, you put it on your resume and that is rather valued. Our society probably also must be become a society that accepts such an evaluation.

After the war, Japan created a pattern where the economy was developed with hardly any military armament, and next they have shown that pollution and the economy coexist.

So, I believe that we should say that we will take the lead in the future in trying to create the kind of society in which the global environment and the economy can skillfully coexist.

In that process, we should consider how we can make an international contribution. I think that this is the direction that will improve the position of Japan in the world a little. Since we are working hard to see how far we really can go, we ask for your consideration.

Yoichi Kaya: Born in 1934. Graduate of Tokyo University School of Engineering. Became lecturer at Tokyo University in 1957. After becoming assistant professor, has been in current position since 1978.

Hiroto Oyama: Born in 1933. Graduate of Keio University Economics Department. Joined NHK in 1956, and after becoming deputy chief of the Economics Desk and Washington bureau chief, has been commentary committee member since 1979. Also has served as professor at Tokyo International University since 1991.

Tomio Tsutsumi: Born in 1938. Graduate of Tokyo University Law School. Joined MITI in 1962, and after becoming deputy chief of International Trade Policy Bureau, chief of International Trade Administration Bureau, and chief of Consumer Goods Industries Bureau, has been in current position since June 1992.

North Korea

MINJU CHOSON: IAEA Satisfied With Inspection Program

SK1212081292 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0424 GMT 12 Dec 92

["To Struggle for Denuclearization and Peace Is DPRK's Consistent Stand"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang December 12 (KCNA)—The December meeting of the Board of Governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] expressed satisfaction with the smooth progress of the inspection program for verifying the uprightness of the DPRK's nuclear policy. In this connection MINJU CHOSON December 11 comes out with a by-lined article.

With nuclear inspections taking place smoothly in Korea, the peaceful nuclear policy of the DPRK enjoys better understanding and support from the world public, the article says, and goes on:

The DPRK is a nuclear-free, peaceful socialist country. It is its consistent stand to struggle against the production of nuclear weapons and nuclear war and for the building of a new society, peaceful and prosperous.

The DPRK is pursuing a peaceful nuclear policy from the invariable stand to denuclearize the Korean peninsula.

With the progress of socialist construction and the expansion of the scale of economy, vast resources of energy are needed in our country. Hence the work is under way for the peaceful use of atomic energy.

We will as ever make every possible effort to effectively use nuclear energy for the nation's economic development by developing science and technology in atomic energy.

The plotters of the United States, Japan and South Korea are getting overheated in the anti-DPRK campaign with a hue and cry over the fictitious "nuclear suspicion", alleging that the DPRK has a "program of nuclear arms development" and crying that it "should thoroughly implement the nuclear safeguards accord".

The United States and the South Korean puppets, while refusing to accept an all-round inspection of the nuclear weapons in South Korea, are talking about "nuclear suspicion" against the DPRK that has honestly accepted the IAEA's inspections. This reveals their sinister intention to keep the U.S. nuclear weapons in South Korea.

The nuclear war maniacs of the United States and their servants in South Korea are now attempting to find a pretext to start another war against our people with outcries over the "development of nuclear arms" by the DPRK.

This reminds us of a thief crying "stop thief!"

Now the world peaceloving people are unanimously expressing sympathy with the DPRK's peaceloving stand for denuclearization and speaking highly of its peaceloving nuclear policy.

No amount of attempt can impair the peaceful nuclear policy of the DPRK, declares the article.

Further on Intellectuals Conference

Yi Chong-ok Reads WPK Message

SK1212042792 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1114 GMT 9 Dec 92

["Congratulatory message" from the Workers Party of Korea Central Committee to Korean intellectuals meeting held in Pyongyang on 9 December, read by Yi Chong-ok, member of the Political Bureau of the party Central Committee and Vice President of DPRK—recorded]

[Text] As workers across the country are vigorously waging the march movement of the 1990's by upholding the party's leadership and overflowing with confidence in victory and with revolutionary optimism, a Korean intellectuals meeting is being held amid great expectations of the entire party and all the people.

The Korean intellectuals meeting is a significant meeting demonstrating the invincible faith and iron-clad will of all Korean intellectuals to defend and protect and to further glorify popular mass-centered socialism of our own style in firm unity with the party and the leader. This meeting is a historic meeting that provides an epoch-making occasion for strengthening the driving forces of the revolution and for enhancing the role of intellectuals in accelerating the socialist construction.

The WPK Central Committee extends warm congratulations to all participants in the meeting and intellectuals across the country who carried out a heroic struggle for a long time by cherishing a lofty pride as Korean intellectuals who are carrying out the revolution under the leadership of the party and the leader by following the banner of the chuche idea, and who registered brilliant exploits before the nation and the people.

Organizing revolutionary intellectuals ranks and enhancing their role are of strategic significance in leading the socialist cause to victory by the working class party.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song newly elucidated the position and role of intellectuals in the revolutionary movement of the working class and put forward the unique chuche policy on intellectuals. He wisely led the struggle to implement the policy.

From the early part of the revolution, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song regarded intellectuals as one of the basic revolutionary forces. When he founded our party, he defined intellectuals as a constituent element of our party, together with workers and peasants, and took a unique step so that the writing brush was inscribed in our party's insignia along with the hammer and sickle.

During the period of anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song united patriotic youth and students, as well as progressive intellectuals, with the revolutionary ranks, and inspired them to the sacred battle for national liberation. After the liberation, he sought scientists, technicians and artists throughout the nation, and assigned them to honorable posts for building a new fatherland. Even when the nation's situation was very difficult, he organized a great number of educational institutes including people's universities, and saw to it that intellectuals from workers and peasants be fostered on a large scale.

Throughout the entire course of revolutionary development, our party made every effort to rear all intellectuals to be genuine revolutionaries loyal to the party and the revolution. Bearing full responsibility for the destiny of intellectuals, our party warmly guided all intellectuals so they could glorify their political life forever in the glorious revolutionary ranks.

Thanks to our party's unique policy toward intellectuals and wise leadership, a basic turn was effected in the destiny of intellectuals in our country, and our intellectuals could traverse the endlessly glorious and rewarding revolutionary path as majestic members of the driving forces of the revolution.

Young intellectuals, who keenly realized the demand of our revolution at an early date, devoted themselves to pioneering the new revolutionary road by highly upholding respected Comrade Kim Il-song as the center of guidance and unity. They actively contributed to achieving the cause of national liberation by participating in the anti-Japanese revolutionary ranks with weapons in their hands.

Endlessly encouraged by our party's precise policy after national liberation, the Korean intellectuals rose in building a new fatherland overflowing with confidence and hope, and a great number of South Korean intellectuals dedicated themselves to the cause of building the nation together with the working people by crossing the deadline to seek the party's bosom.

During the severe Fatherland Liberation War, our intellectuals took up guns instead of writing brushes and fought bravely as fighters of the People's Army and as political functionaries to defend the people's sovereignty and gains of the revolution in accordance with the party's summons. They came to the supreme headquarters and the party center through the enemies' blockades and struggled to the end for victory in the war without flinching even during a temporary retreat, thus demonstrating the heroic traits and unyielding militant spirit of our intellectuals.

Holding deep in their hearts the party's unique policies on postwar rehabilitation, socialist revolution, and socialist construction, our intellectuals devoted all their creative wisdom and energy to the struggle to rehabilitate the destroyed economy, to rebuild cities and urban areas after socialism, and to realize the national industrialization with workers and farmers, while bravely overcoming obstacles and counterrevolutionary maneuvers by enemies home and abroad. By doing so, they contributed to making the century's miracle and to building a socialist country of independence, self-sustenance, and self-defense on this land in a short historic period.

During a time of historic change of our revolution, when remolding of the entire society after the chuche idea emerged to be an imminent issue, the intellectuals accelerated the three revolutions—ideological, technological, and cultural—and energetically struggled to make great progress in developing a self-reliant national economy and a socialist national culture, upholding our party's leadership, thus greatly contributing to hardening our party's organizational and ideological basis and to effecting new upsurges in all fields of the revolution and construction.

Modern plants and enterprises and grand monumental buildings constructed and being managed and operated by our own resources and strength, and all other material and cultural assets that our people have achieved and all gains of the socialism of our own style, in which the popular masses are masters, are permeated with the valuable labor and heroic struggle of our talented and diligent intellectuals who have stoutly walked along the road of the revolution upholding the party's leadership all the time.

Our intellectuals have excellently fulfilled their lofty mission and assigned duties, invariably following the party and completely relying on the party for their destinies along the arduous and intricate road of the revolution. Today when antisocialist and anti-Republic maneuvers by imperialists and reactionaries become unprecedentedly vicious, they are faithfully struggling with a firm faith in socialism in order to defend and safeguard the socialism of our own style and to add luster to it, firmly united around the party.

It is a great victory of the policy of our party, which has brought up intellectuals with all its energy and with boundless love for them. It brings great pride and pleasure to our party and people that a huge rank of 1.6 million reliable scientists, technicians, and experts, who are loyal to the party and leader and have advanced scientific technology, professional knowledge, and abundant experience, has been prepared in our country, which had only a few intellectuals right after the liberalization. [applause]

Because we have the rank of revolutionary intellectuals as well as the revolutionary working class and farmers, strong are the main forces of our revolution, and we can brilliantly achieve a complete victory of the socialist cause and independent reunification of the fatherland by vigorously advancing the revolution and construction with our own strength while defeating all disturbing maneuvers by imperialists.

The WPK Central Committee highly assesses the fact that in hearty response to the party's leadership, our intellectuals have honorably fulfilled their noble historic mission before the fatherland and people and attained brilliant feats in revolution and construction. [applause]

Today, our party and people have the important task of further consolidating and developing the popular masses-centered socialism of our own style, achieving the complete victory of socialism and the fatherland's independent reunification, and brilliantly completing the chuche socialist cause by completely implementing the overall policies on socialist construction presented by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught: Our intellectuals must further revolutionize themselves and imbue themselves with the working-class spirit. They must struggle with all their wisdom and talents to defend socialism and achieve the complete victory of socialism without wavering due to difficult situations.

The Korean intellectuals must more vigorously struggle to brilliantly fulfill their important missions and duties before the fatherland and revolution.

Loyalty to the party and leader is of utmost importance to Korean intellectuals and their proudest tradition. To fulfill their revolutionary mission of completing the chuche revolutionary cause cultivated at the sacred Mt. Paektu, Korean intellectuals must also cherish deep in their hearts and highly display boundless loyalty to the party and leader in the future.

All the intellectuals must resolutely walk along the single road of loyalty in hearty response to the party's call on them to become our party's eternal companions, sincere supporters, excellent advisers, and people who enthusiastically defend and thoroughly implement the party's policies.

All the intellectuals must have a firm chuche-oriented revolutionary outlook on the leader [suryong], believe in and follow only the party and leader [suryong] in any difficult and complicated situation, cherish revolutionary beliefs and principles, share life and death with the party to the end, and resolutely fight to complete the chuche revolutionary cause.

Intellectuals must always consider the party's lines and policies to be the only guideline in their life and struggle, absolutely support and defend them, and excellently fulfill the revolutionary mission of upholding the party with their knowledge and skills. In this way, they must positively contribute to implementing the party's policies.

Vigorously pushing the three revolutions—ideological, technological, and cultural—is our intellectuals' most honorable revolutionary mission. Intellectuals must become genuine educators who scientifically and theoretically explain and propagandize our party's chuche idea and the party's policies, an embodiment of the chuche idea. They must arm party members and workers with boundless loyalty to the party and leader, with the spirit of considering Korea as No. 1, with a firm belief in socialism, and with profound class consciousness. They must also become agitators who vigorously inspire the masses into revolution and construction.

Intellectuals are widely propagandizing at home and abroad the superiority of socialism of our own style centered on the popular masses. They have deeply demonstrated the invincibility of the destruction of the reactionary essence and corruptness of capitalism and imperialism. Therefore they must thoroughly prevent all kinds of bourgeoisie antirevolutionary ideological poisonous matters so that it cannot permeate within us.

Intellectuals should highly uphold our party's chuche-oriented educational, cultural, and health policies, and foster the new generations growing up to become chuche-type men and capable scientists, technicians, and professionals who are fully prepared mentally, morally, and physically. They should also accelerate the work to intellectualize all of society and wholly bloom and develop the socialist national culture. They should actively struggle to protect and improve the people's health.

Scientists and technicians should manifest high revolutionary enthusiasm and creativeness to smoothly solve scientific and technical problems in realizing the chucheization, modernization, and scientization of the people's economy so that the might of the self-dependent national economy can be further strengthened, display the superiority of socialism, and enhance the country's overall science and technology onto a world level as soon as possible.

Intellectuals should wholly display the superiority of the Taean work system which is a chuche-type socialist economic management system, further strengthen the people's government, and actively solve theoretical and practical problems to rationally improve and strengthen the guidance and management and operation of the socialist society. By doing so, they can all the more contribute to further developing and completing socialist social relations.

If intellectuals are to smoothly fulfill their honorable mission and duty, they must decisively enhance their political and ideological level, scientific and theoretical level, and technical and practical qualifications. Intellectuals should firmly arm themselves with our party's chuche idea, and train themselves in a revolutionary way through organizational life. They should practice in further accelerating their revolutionization and working classification.

Intellectuals should study constantly to be well versed in advanced science and technology and professional knowledge of their major field and endlessly enhance their capability. By doing so, they can sensitively capture the problems which the party is aiming at and solve them at an appointed time. They should also become true scientists, technicians, and experts contributing to the party and revolution through high scientific and technical results.

Party organizations at all levels should intensify work with intellectuals, improve and strengthen the ideological and indoctrination work and guidance of organizational life, and solve problems that arise in the work and life of the intellectuals on a timely basis so that our intellectuals can all the more magnificently contribute to the party, revolution, fatherland, and people.

Our party is expressing great trust in our intellectuals who have accumulated brilliant achievements before the fatherland and people while walking along the formidable road of the revolution with the party. The expectation of the party and people concerning intellectuals is very great.

The WPK Central Committee is of the firm belief that all intellectuals will firmly unite around the party Central Committee accompanied by the respected and beloved Comrade Kim Il-song to further elucidate socialism of our own style centered on the popular masses. They will achieve greater victories in the struggle to model all of society after the chuche idea so that they can magnificently repay the high trust and expectation of the party and people.]

[signed] WPK Central Committee
[dated] 9 December 1992

Kye Ung-tae Opening Address

SK1112101392 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1100 GMT 9 Dec 92

["Opening speech" by Comrade Kye Ung-tae, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Workers Party of Korea Central Committee, at Korean intellectuals meeting held in Pyongyang on 9 December—recorded]

[Text] At a time when all workers across the country are vigorously accelerating the socialist construction by cherishing confidence in victory and revolutionary optimism, we are holding a Korean intellectuals meeting in the presence of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song.

Regarding intellectuals as one of the basic revolutionary forces from the first day of the revolution, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song saw to it that pen was inscribed in our party's insignia along with a hammer and sickle. In each time and each step of the development of revolution, he wisely led our intellectuals to rewarding struggle and creation. The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's personal presence in the Korean intellectuals meeting is a great honor to all participants in the meeting and to intellectuals across the country.

Our party, which attaches great significance to the role of intellectuals in the revolutionary struggle and construction work, promoted a Korean intellectuals meeting so that our intellectuals can excellently fulfill the honorable missions and duties assigned them in compliance with the demand of present situation and of the development of revolution. Our party led all preparatory works so the meeting can be held successfully.

All participants in the meeting are filled with a sense of boundless admiration and ardent loyalty to the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, who is wisely leading our intellectuals after presenting them as one of the mighty driving forces of the revolution and as a constituent element of our party, and to our party. We are overflowing with a firm determination to tenaciously fight for victory of the chuche revolutionary cause by following the party forever.

This meeting is participated in by 6,000 people, including representatives of intellectuals from various domains—scientific, educational, publication, the press, literary, art and public health—and functionaries of the party.

Present at this meeting is a delegation of Korean intellectuals residing in Japan headed by Comrade Kwon Sun-i, vice chairman of the Central Standing Committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan [Chongnyon], which came to the socialist fatherland by cherishing a sense of unanimous and ardent loyalty from the Korean intellectuals residing in Japan.

I firmly believe that the Korean intellectuals meeting, held amid the great interest of all people in our country, will be a historic meeting which will vigorously demonstrate justness and vitality of our party's policy on intellectuals and iron-clad will and spirit of our intellectuals who are resolved to firmly defend and brilliantly accomplish the chuche socialist cause to the end in firm unity with the party and the leader. This meeting will also be a significant meeting which will provide an important milestone in the struggle and life of our intellectuals.

I now declare the opening of this meeting.

Pyongyang Lauds Role of Intellectuals

SK0712142692

[Editorial Report] Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean at 0223 GMT on 7 December carries a 27-minute long political essay on the Korean intellectuals' role and position, entitled "We Do Not Want Comfort". The essay says that knowledge and revolution, and intellectuals and revolutionary faith, are very important issues which our rapidly changing era raises. It also says that the significance of the intellectuals' role in revolutionary struggle, their revolutionary position, and their faith are emerging today as very important elements.

The essay hails the Korean intellectuals as intellectuals boundlessly loyal to the party and the leader, even under all kinds of imperialist maneuvers and temptations today, as intellectuals who thoroughly turn away their personal comfort and carry out the revolution along with the party, and as intellectuals whose roles other classes or strata cannot perform in their stead.

While describing today's confrontation between capitalism and socialism not only as the confrontation of two ideologies and two systems but also the confrontation of two views of life—personal comfort or struggle to ensure happiness of their fatherland, people, and the entire humankind—the essay defines genuine intellectuals as intellectuals who firmly safeguard their revolutionary position with a clean conscience and revolutionary faith.

The essay depicts the faith and resolution of the Korean intellectuals, who are experiencing the world's turmoil due to some socialist countries' collapse, by citing the remarks of the party cell secretary of the Korean Central News Agency's [KCNA] second cell, in connection with the KCNA intellectuals' letter to Kim Chong-il, and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il's reply to this letter. The party cell secretary remarks: We have heard deplorable facts that some people called intellectuals in the countries where extreme chaos was rampant due to the imperialists' and reactionaries' maneuvers sold their conscience and dignity in pursuit of their own comfort and are advancing along the road of treachery. Thus, we could not repress our indignation and shouted in our mind that we will follow only our great leader and party with one single mind and that we will walk along a single road of revolution to the end although the heaven collapses and the ground sinks. We will cherish in our mind such firm faith and pride and uphold the party's leadership with loyalty. We have sent to him a letter containing numerous resolutions to defend and safeguard the dear leader comrade at the cost of our life.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il's reply reads:

To party members of the second cell,

I acknowledge receipt of the comrades' letter. I thank you, comrades, for your hard work. I was very much encouraged by your letter and promise you that I will be infinitely faithful to the party and revolutionary cause so that I can meet your expectations. I extend to you my comradely greetings.

Kim Chong-il
1 November 1990

The essay describes the Korean intellectuals in relation to the party's existence:

In order to truly bring their knowledge and talent into full bloom and add luster to their worthwhile life, the Korean intellectuals should have a bosom, the party, which recognizes their wisdom and role, takes responsibility for their destiny, and leads them.

The essay also emphasizes that the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song had included intellectuals, including Kim Hyok and Chang Won-su, in the glorious first revolutionary comrades' rank. In a congratulatory message for the new year to the Korean Literary Production Co., the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il says: "I want you, intellectuals, to be the permanent companions, loyal supporters, and good advisers."

The essay praises the Korean intellectuals as masters of history and masters of the revolution, and as splendid intellectuals who do not succumb to any kind of temptations. The essay takes as an example a DPRK historic scholar who visited South Korea as part of the last North-South home-visiting program and wase tempted to defect to South Korea together with an offer of wealth and honorable status. The scholar resolutely rejected this temptation by saying: "I am a scholar. The scholar is an intellectual. If you think that the intellectual defected to the North in pursuit of wealth, it is a stupid thing. The North has its own philosophy and has the most superior popular masses-centered socialism of our style in which all the people are leading an evenly abundant life. The North also has the bosom of the Workers Party which everyone calls mother."

The essay says that no tempest or temptation can estrange our intellectuals from our party and that the imperialists cannot defeat our intellectuals who are walking along a single road of loyalty to the party by willingly devoting their knowledge, talent, and life. The essay concludes by saying that our intellectuals believe in the victory of the socialist cause which our party leads.

KCNA Reviews 15 Dec Pyongyang Press

SK1512061992 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0509 GMT 15 Dec 92

[Press Review]

[Text] Pyongyang December 15 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today reports that the reminiscences of the great leader President Kim Il- song "With the Century" was studied and disseminated abroad.

Papers inform the readers that President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea received a message from Egyptian President Muhammad Husni Mubarak in reply to his message of sympathy over the earthquake damages in Egypt. A solidarity letter was sent to President Kim Il-song in joint name by Leopoldo Grillyon, general secretary, and Felipe Baez, international secretary of the C.C. [Central Committee], the Dominican Communist Party (Marxism-Leninism) denouncing the decision to resume the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises.

Works of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il are being studied and disseminated in many countries, according to NODONG SINMUN.

Papers give an account of a national symposium on Comrade Kim Chong-il's work *"On the Fundamental Questions of Revolutionary Party Building"*.

An article of NODONG SINMUN deals with the leadership of Comrade Kim Chong-il to build the Haeju cement factory in South Hwanghae Province into a reliable building materials base of the country.

"Increasing Obedience to Socialist Laws is Powerful Way to Glorify Socialism of Our Own Style" is the title of a by-lined article of NODONG SINMUN and "To Organize and Guide Well the Work for Obedience to Socialist Laws is an Important Function of People's Power" is the title of an article of MINJU CHOSON, which are dedicated to the 10th anniversary of the publication of the work of Comrade Kim Chong-il "*On Increasing Obedience to Socialist Laws*".

Given in the press are an account of a meeting held to award state decorations and gifts to the delegates to the Korean intellectuals meeting and statements of intellectuals vowing to live up to the trust of the party with loyalty.

The press runs an account of an Austrian national seminar on the present era and the chuche idea and a report made at the seminar.

The press informs the readers of a press conference of an international fact-finding group on the wartime crimes of old Japan.

Appearing in NODONG SINMUN is a statement made public by the Central Committee of the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland regarding the truth behind the South Korean authorities' development of nuclear weapons which was brought to light by the South Korean National Democratic Front.

The daily in a commentary denounces the South Korean authorities for putting the brake on the implementation of the North-South agreement on the lapse of one year since the agreement was adopted and published.

It comes out with an article shedding a revealing light on the strife for power within the "democratic liberal party" of South Korea with the "presidential elections" in the offing.

According to the daily, the Romanian paper DIMINEATA carried an article giving a comparative analysis of the economies of the North and the South of Korea.

Under the title "Singlehearted Unity is the Vitality of Korea" the daily rounds up voices of foreign public figures and tone of publications.

A rally for urging an early normalisation of diplomatic relations between Japan and the DPRK was held in Osaka, according to the press.

Carried in the press are a report about a summit meeting of African frontline states and articles exposing corruption of the capitalist society.

The press observes the 20th anniversary of the opening of diplomatic relations between the DPRK and Zaire.

NODONG SINMUN runs an article titled "Japan's Nuclear Arming Poses Grave Threat to Peace in Asia".

14 Dec NODONG SINMUN Review

SK1412065492 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0518 GMT 14 Dec 92

[Review of NODONG SINMUN]

[Text] Pyongyang December 14 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN here today devotes upper part of its front page to an editorial calling on the intellectuals to further glorify socialism of Korean style upon the conclusion of the Korean intellectuals meeting which was held with a large attendance amid keen interest and expectation of people at home and abroad after succssful discussio of its work.

The paper reports that many people have visited Kanggye peddler's in which was associated with the feats of the great leader president Kim Il-song President Kim Il-song had stayed in the inn when he was going to Chunggang from Mangyondae with his parents in the autumn of 1919 nd he was coming back to Mangyondae from Badagou in March of 1923. The paper carries news that the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il received a letter from the participants in the joint seminar of the groups for the study of the chuche idea of Guinea on his immortal classical work "*On the Fundamental Questions of Revolutionary Party Building*".

The paper prints a message of greetings of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea to Victor Sanchez on his election as chairman of the national executive committee of the February Revolutionary Party of Paraguay.

The Nepalese prime minister met the Korean ambassador to his country and the Korean ambassador to Algeria paid a courtesy call on the prime minister of the country, reports the paper. Econews of the paper includes reports about successes of working people in different domain of national economy including discovery of many promising deposits by geological prospecting teams under the Ministry of Natural Resources development.

The paper carries a statement released by the spokesman of the North side's headquarters of Pomminnyon on the occasion of the first anniversary of the adoption of the "Agreement on Reconciliation, Nonaggression, Cooperation and Exchange between the North and the South" and a KCNA's report exposing the violation of the North-South agreement and Joint Declaration on Denuclearization by the South Korean authorities.

The paper informs the readers that the international fact-finding group on wartime crimes of old Japan continues its investigation in Pyongyang and an international public hearing on postwar compensation of Japan was held in Tokyo.

Foreign publications brought to light the economic crisis of South Korea and the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets have continued military exercises against the North, says the paper.

The paper conveys news that a South Korean professor said the introduction of plutonium by Japan revealed her intention to manufacture nuclear weapons.

An article of the paper says that the "regime of the Democratic Liberal Party" is bringing the situation on the Korean peninsula to confrontation and war.

Japanese organisations urged an early normalisation of diplomatic relations between the DPRK and Japan and Prof. John Humphrey, a former U.N. official and one of makers of the world declaration on human rights, exposed the fact that Japan is putting pressure on the United Nations not to discuss the problem of compensation for the "comfort women," according to the paper.

The Peruvian president called for peace of the country, says the paper.

It reports that refugees' problem poses itself as an international issue awaiting an urgent solution on a worldwide scale.

NODONG SINMUN Comment on Current Issues, Events

Lauds Intellectuals Congress

SK1012130292 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0000 GMT 9 Dec 92

[NODONG SINMUN 9 Dec editorial: "Congress of Loyalty of Korean Intellectuals Who Vigorously Fight Along Party's Leadership"]

[Text] Today all the party members and working people are cherishing a great dignity and the pride of constructing the most superior socialism following the party's and the leader's leadership. They are vigorously accelerating the revolution and construction, overflowing with faith in and optimism over certain victory. Under such thrilling circumstances, the Korean intellectuals' congress will be held from today on.

The Korean intellectuals' congress is a historic congress held amid our party's great expectation and special interest. All the intellectuals throughout the country are filled with a feeling of boundless thanks and confidence toward our party which has brought them up as the most proud and happiest intellectuals and hold the grand congress today. They are consolidating their firm resolution to uphold the party and the leader with a single mind of loyalty and filial devotion under any kind of difficulties.

The Korean intellectuals' congress has an important mission. This congress will discuss the following militant tasks: The intellectuals should resolutely defend and safeguard our glorious party which is leading at the head the popular masses-centered socialism which they have built with their own strength under the banner of the great chuche idea. They should faithfully uphold the party's cause with knowledge and technology.

At this congress are intellectuals who are boundlessly loyal to the party and the leader, including the old intellectuals who have unswervingly walked along a single road of revolution with the party since the construction of the new society and the new fatherland began, the intellectuals who played a great role during the difficult periods of post-war rehabilitation and construction and of socialist revolution, and the intellectuals of the new generation who greatly contribute to carrying out the cause of modeling the entire society after the chuche idea with modern science and technology that they have learned in the party's bosom.

It is a great auspicious event that they have the Korean intellectuals' congress in the socialist fatherland of chuche by upholding the leader [suryong] and the leader [yongdoja], and it gives a great significance to our party's and people's revolutionary struggle history. This congress, above all, will serve as a meaningful occasion which can vigorously demonstrate the indomitable faith and firm will of the Korean intellectuals who will endlessly adorn and uphold their leader [yongdoja] to the end with a single mind of loyalty and filial devotion.

Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Workers Party of Korea [WPK] Central Committee and its secretary, indicated:

Only when it bands the farmers and intellectuals in its rank, the party of the working class can become a mighty party which takes root in the extensive masses and strengthen the main force of revolution. The intellectuals are a constituent unit of the main force of revolution. It is an important demand to prepare the revolutionary intellectuals' rank in order to firmly consolidate the revolutionary rank's single-minded unity. Only the revolutionary rank in which all the intellectuals can share destiny with the party by uniting in one ideology and will along with the working class and farmers can display the might of invincibility.

The 1.6 million intellectuals who have the firm position and view that they know only their party and leader [suryong] are firmly united around our party today. No one in the world can excel the Korean intellectuals' splendid traits in terms of endless loyalty to their leader [yongdoja], the thoroughness in class awareness and view and the lofty spirit trying to contribute to the party, revolution, fatherland, and people with knowledge and technology.

Because we have invincible cohesion inseparably united in blood ties between the leader [yongdoja] and all the intellectuals across the country, we have nothing to fear and can demonstrate the nation's wisdom and dignity generation after generation.

Through this intellectuals' congress , the lofty spiritual and moral traits of our intellectuals who make loyalty to the party and the leader their life will be vigorously demonstrated at home and abroad. The intellectuals' confidence in our party will be further enhanced. The Korean intellectuals' congress will also serve as a meaningful occasion of making a new turn in the struggle to resolutely adhere to and brilliantly consummate socialism of our style, which is dynamically advancing under the wise leadership of the party and the leader [suryong].

The popular masses-centered socialism of our style, which our people chose by themselves and built for themselves under the banner of the great chuche idea, is vigorously displaying its superiority and invincible might today. Because we have such a splendid socialism, the Korean intellectuals enjoy a great glory and happiness, have a unique pride and dignity, and an endlessly bright future.

While witnessing the abnormal developments that socialist ruling parties and socialist systems collapsed in succession in many countries in the world and that numerous intellectuals sold their conscience and dignity and were reduced to slaves of money, our intellectuals feel in the bottom of their heart that the Korean intellectuals who live and carry out the revolution in the great party's bosom are the proud intellectuals who are leading their life amid a great fortune. Our intellectuals' destiny and future rest with socialism, and the fatherland's and nation's boundless flourish and prosperity also depends on socialism.

This congress will serve as a land mark which plants more deeply in all the intellectuals' mind a faith that if we defend socialism, it means a victory, while if we forsake socialism, it means a death, and as a landmark which enables them to accelerate socialist construction at a new, high level, overflown with faith and optimism.

On the occasion of the Korean intellectuals' congress, the experience of the loyal intellectuals who set an example in the struggle to adhere to integrity of the great chuche idea and socialist ideology and to carry through three revolution line—ideology, technology, and culture—will be extensively discussed and generalized. Thus, this will make all of our intellectuals give full play to their revolutionary passion and creative wisdom. As a result, a new upsurge will take place in socialist construction and the country's chuche-oriented scientific and technological development and a complete socialist victory will be more vigorously advanced.

Because of this reason, the Korean intellectuals' congress will become a proud congress which will open a brilliant chapter in the glorious revolutionary struggle history of our people who, upholding the banner of the chuche idea, will resolutely defend, adhere to, and endlessly add luster to the socialist cause of our style. The Korean intellectuals' congress will be recorded as a congress which gives faith and optimism to the revolutionary intellectuals of our era, who are trying to defend independence and safeguard socialism, and as a revolutionary congress which dealt a great blow to the maneuvers of the imperialists and all kinds of reactionaries who attempt to block socialist advance.

The Korean intellectuals' congress is a highly proud congress which can be held only in our glorious chuche-socialist fatherland which upholds the outstanding leader [yongdoja] in the van of the party and revolution and have the most correct intelligentsia policy—which was materialized as brilliant realities.

The respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song presented the original chuche-oriented intelligentsia policy based on his scientific analysis of the position and role which the intellectuals play in the revolutionary movement—he had made this analysis since he began the revolution. He has wisely led the struggle for realizing the policy.

For the first time in history, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has defined intellectuals as components of the working class party and as power of the revolution. Our party's mark which bears a hammer, a sickle, and a writing brush has appeared. A new history has been also opened for politics of love that can firmly trust in, educate, and lead intellectuals.

In the period we pioneered the harsh road of our revolution and we realized the cause for founding a party, a state, and an Army—including the postwar period of rehabilitation and the period of carrying out the socialist revolution—the respected and beloved leader has valued every intellectuals and has given them the warm affection and love. Because of this, the Korean intellectuals, who were neglected and contemplated in the past as ones of a colony, have been newly reborn today as most respected revolutionary intellectuals. As brave members of the revolutionary chuche, they have traversed the revolutionary road, which is indefinitely glorious and rewarding.

Our party has resolutely adhered to the policy of the intellectuals put forward by the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song. It has also brilliantly inherited and developed the policy.

The history that party has led the revolution and construction to a victory is one that it has shared its destiny with intellectuals by firmly trusting in them as its eternal companions for the revolution. This is also a glorious course in which our party has fully inspired intellectuals' abundant wisdom and talent by absolutely trusting in them and giving them its warm love.

In this historic course, our party has attained the immortal achievements that will shine in the world. Our party has attained achievements in the course of leading intellectuals by assuming the responsibility for their destinies. These achievements are, first of all, the fact that our party has fully elucidated the road to consummate the socialist cause to the end by enhancing intellectuals' role with their energetic ideological and theoretical activities.

The formation of the revolutionary intellectuals' rank and the enhancement of their role are of strategic significant for the working class party to consummate the socialist cause. In addition, the socialist ruling party's greatness can be vigorously demonstrated in correctly solving this issue.

Based on the great chuche idea, our party has put forward a great many unique ideological and theoretical policies. As a result, it has endlessly opened a bright road for our era's intellectuals' struggle to pioneer their destines.

All ideas, theories, and policies put forward by our party are of the most scientific and revolutionary ones that show our country's actual situation, and that express our intellectuals' aspirations. These policies are designed to make intellectuals revolutionary and working-class, to have them cherish deep in their hearts the faith in socialism and the love for their fatherland, and to give them training through the organizational life and the revolutionary practice.

In particular, the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has recently published an immortal work "Let Us Further Strengthen Intellectuals' Role in the Revolution and Construction." This is of ultimate significant in carrying out the revolution and construction. Thanks to the publication of the work, which has contained all creative ideologies and theories on intellectuals, the most reasonable guideline—which can enable the socialist ruling parties to consummate the revolutionary cause to the end by constantly enhancing intellectuals' role—has been prepared.

Because of this, the work offers a powerful weapon [mugi] to the party and the people carrying out the revolution so that they can realize the nation's prosperity and progress. It also encourages intellectuals' conviction and courage in our times.

In the course of leading intellectuals' fate in a responsible manner, our party has attained achievements. This is because our party has raised them as new style revolutionary intellectuals, who has a lofty ideological and spiritual ethos and who are positively contributing to implementing the party's cause.

Today, intellectuals in Korea have their own tradition and their unique characteristics. It is the Korean intellectuals' tradition to inherit the lofty revolutionary spirit shown by predecessors, including Kim Hyok and Cha Kwang-su, at the dawn of our revolution. It is also our intellectuals' basic nature to fully display their all knowledge and technology to develop the socialism.

The Korean intellectuals—who have a strong spirit of the party and a high sense of the revolution—do not want any comfort, enrichment, prosperity, pay, or honor, nor do they pursue them at all. The anti-Japanese guerrillas and propaganda workers resolutely safeguarded, adhered to, and implemented the great General's ideas and lines to the end in those days of fierce and harsh anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle. Thereby, they devoted their youth and their life to implanting his ideas and lines in revolutionaries and the people. Therefore, let us live and work like them. This is a slogan of the Korean intellectuals' conviction and of their voice today.

Our party has formed an intellectuals Army unit, which can devotedly and constantly realize the socialist cause in any harsh winds and storm, while sharing their life with the leader [yongdoja] to the end. What is reflected in here is a great victory in our party's policies and is a great pride of our people.

A greatness is truly the achievements that our party has attained in the course of leading intellectuals' fate in a responsible manner. All of these achievements cannot be praised by any words.

With his indefinite love and wise leadership for the intellectuals, Comrade Kim Chong-il has attained such a great achievement. Because of this, he is absolutely respected and trusted by our people and the world's progressive intellectuals as a great master [susung] and great leader [yongdoja].

Under the wise leadership of the party and the leader, the Korean intellectuals have traversed the proud road filled with victory and glory. They are enjoying an independent and creative life to their heart's content.

Our intellectuals should not forget even a moment the great pride and confidence of carrying out the revolution while upholding the great leader [yongdoja]. They should brilliantly carry out the mission and role as the revolutionary intellectuals who have been brought up under the war care of the party.

Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Workers Party of Korea Central Committee, has noted: Our intellectuals are assigned the heavy and honorable mission of vigorously waging struggle to realize the cause of modeling the whole society on the chuche idea.

With this intellectuals' meeting as a motive, all intellectuals across the country should, above all, have firm determination and obligation to endlessly glorify the tradition of loyalty to the party and the leader which has been carried forward generation after generation. The loyalty to the party and the leader is the first life and the most valuable tradition of the Korean intellectuals.

Since the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle period to hew out our revolution, our intellectuals have firmly taken up the brush of the revolution at every period of our revolution. They have invariably upheld the leader [yongdoja] of the revolution with loyalty. In this course, they have achieved numerous proud things. Adhering to and glorifying this glorious tradition are the pride and everlasting happiness of the Korean intellectuals.

Upholding the party's call that they should be an eternal companion, faithful helper, good adviser, and those who earnestly support and thoroughly carry out the party's policy to achieve the chuche revolutionary cause, all of our intellectuals should indefatigably advance along the single road of loyalty.

Intellectuals should make it a rule of faith, conscience, and morality to be loyal to the party and the leader. They should invariably and firmly believe the party and the leader under any circumstances. They should firmly maintain the revolutionary faith and principle.

Devotedly struggling to bring into full play the might of socialism of our own style while upholding the banner of the chuche idea is an honorable revolutionary mission facing our intellectuals. Our socialism has been established based on the chuche idea. Our socialism has been developed and completed with the chuche idea as a guiding policy. The final victory of our socialism is definite.

Whatever antirevolutionary maneuvers the imperialists and reactionaries may strengthen, they can never undermine the dignity of our Republic going forward whiling upholding the banner of socialism.

We are with the great leader and the ever-victorious great chuche idea. We have the invincible unity and solidarity that all the party and all the people firmly rally around the leader [yongdoja]. As far as the strong intellectuals' ranks, which can thoroughly smash the imperialists' reactionary ideological and cultural offensives and vicious economic blockade, uphold the party's cause with the revolutionary working class and peasants, there can be no difficulties or fortress that we cannot overcome and occupy.

Taking a firm faith in socialism and being full of confidence and optimistic view, all intellectuals should devote their knowledge, technology, wisdom, and ability to struggle to demonstrate the might of the socialism of our own style. Based on the profound principle of the chuche idea, intellectuals should expose in detail the reactionary spirit and antipeople-mindedness of the unsound ideological trends and bourgeois life style which the imperialists have viciously propagated. They should thoroughly prevent capitalist and individualistic economic managing elements from being infiltrated into our society.

With this intellectuals' meeting as a motive, only when intellectuals firmly arm themselves with the chuche idea and when they are firmly determined to stand in the vanguard of carrying out the three revolutions—ideological, technological, and cultural—can our socialism be firmly defended under any circumstances. Only then can the might of our socialism be strengthened with each passing day.

With this intellectuals' meeting as a motive, all intellectuals throughout the country should effect a new upsurge in struggle to realize our party's plan to construct magnificent socialism.

The Korean intellectuals, who have overcome the arduous revolutionary difficulties with the party, have firmer revolutionary spirit and stronger revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and fortitude than anyone else. With brilliant characteristics and indefatigable struggle spirit, our intellectuals have performed heroic exploits at every period and at every stage of socialist construction. They have made a great contribution to rendering the party's plan to be a great reality.

All victories, fruitions, and valuable achievements, gained in revolution and construction, are associated with the energetic quest, devoted efforts, and blood and sweat. With this intellectuals' meeting as an occasion, our intellectuals should more highly bring into full play the indefatigable devoted spirit in struggle to construct socialism.

In keeping with the demand of this intellectuals' meeting, that is, a meeting for a new general march and a meeting for ideological mobilization, all intellectuals should vigorously rise up with new determination and ambition. They should brilliantly carry out the mission as those who thoroughly support and implement the party's policy.

The chuche-oriented socialist fatherland, established by the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song and glorified by our party, is the country that has brilliant intellectuals' ranks. In addition, the chuche-oriented socialist fatherland is the brisk and vigorous country in which all intellectuals' independence and creativeness are displayed at the most noble level.

The validity of our party's original policy for intellectuals has been fully demonstrated. The validity of our party's original policy for intellectuals has unfolded the great reality on this land. Unfathomable is the might of the Korean intellectuals, who firmly rally around the party center headed by the respected and beloved Comrade Kim Il-song, take up the brush for justness, advance, independence, and creation, and complete the socialism of our own style. Only victory and glory will be always in store for the future of intellectuals.

Stresses Army's Loyalty

SK1112113192 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0010 GMT 7 Dec 92

[NODONG SINMUN 7 December special article: "Our Party Which Has Loyal Fighters of the People's Army Is Invincible and Ever-victorious"]

[Text] Loyalty to the party and the leader is the first life and soul of our People's Army. Endless loyalty of our People's Army to the party and the leader, which was created in the Mt. Paektu forest and which has been firmly inherited, has reached the loftiest height on the road of upholding Comrade Kim Chong-il as supreme commander of the Korean People's Army [KPA].

Some time ago, Pak Yong-chol's eight brothers—all Army officers—respectfully sent a letter containing a pledge of loyalty to the comrade supreme commander. This is another proud epic showing the lofty political and ideological traits of our army.

Seeing this letter, Comrade Kim Chong-il, KPA supreme commander, sent a significant autograph letter to them noting that "our party, which has such fighters who are boundlessly loyal to the party and to the revolutionary cause as you comrades, is invincible and ever-victorious."

The comrade supreme commander deeply trusts the officers and men of the People's Army while fighters of the People's Army absolutely trust and loyally uphold the comrade supreme commander. This is why our Army is strong, our party is mighty and our revolutionary cause is victoriously marching forward.

The heroic KPA is our party's revolutionary Armed Forces that are endlessly loyal to the party and the leader.

By highly and loyally upholding Comrade Kim Chong-il, the supreme commander, all officers and men of the KPA today are excellently carrying out the mission and duty as the army of the party, as the army of revolution and as the Army of the people.

It is a great pride of our party and people to have fighters endlessly loyal to the party and to the revolutionary cause.

Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the Political Bureau Presidium and secretary of the Workers Party of Korea [WPK] Central Committee, has indicated: It is the greatest honor and pride for our party to have the People's Army which tenaciously defends and protects the party and the leader and accomplishes the party's order and directive to the end by going through fire and water.

The revolutionary Army is the army of the leader [suryong] and of the party. The lofty mission of the revolutionary Army is to defend and protect the party and the leader. Loyalty to the leader is the first life and soul for the revolutionary Army.

Loyalty to the party and the leader is a fundamental factor regulating existence and all activities of the revolutionary Army itself. The revolutionary Army is to be founded by the leader and is to be strengthened and developed under the leadership of the party and the leader.

Without loyalty to the party and the leader, no one can think of existence of the revolutionary army and of its solidification and development.

Only when the revolutionary Army remains endlessly loyal to the party and the leader, can it firmly maintain its revolutionary character under any circumstance and demonstrate its ever-victorious might.

Historic lessons clearly show that no matter how modern the military technology the Army may have and no matter how enormous the number of troops it may have, the Army will degenerate if it lacks loyalty to the party and the leader and will be enervated.

Loyalty to the party and the leader is a traditional trait of our People's Army. Our People's Army is the army of the party, born with loyalty to the party and the leader as the first life and soul. It is a glorious revolutionary army which has constantly been strengthened and developed with loyalty as an ideological and mental weapons, thus traversing along an ever-victorious, invincible road.

Our army, which made the first gun report in Mt. Paektu forest, firmly traversed along the road of loyalty by following the leadership of the party and the leader, and tenaciously defended the party's cause through its devoted and heroic struggle.

It is the greatest honor of our People's Army that it has brilliantly inherited and developed the proud tradition of loyalty to the party and the leader amid a long and arduous struggle after creating this tradition during the period of anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle.

Today, the loyalty of our People's Army to the party and the leader is being more highly demonstrated at a new higher stage. The 19th Plenary Meeting of the Sixth WPK Central Committee held last year respectfully elected Comrade Kim Chong-il as supreme commander of the KPA.

All officers and men of the KPA accepted this exciting event with great emotion and joy, and made a firm pledge to defend and protect the chuche socialist cause to the end in firm unity with the great leader [yongdoja]. This pledge is the pledge of faith which will never change forever and is a decisive determination to fight by dedicating all of their youth and lives to comrade supreme commander.

Just as the pledge it made before the party and the leader, our People's Army is unswervingly traversing along the road of loyalty without wavering even amid today's historical whirlpool.

The endless loyalty of our People's Army to the party and the leader is the endless pride in living and struggling as revolutionary fighters of Comrade Kim Chong-il by upholding him as supreme commander of the KPA. This loyalty is a firm will to overcome any storm with single-hearted unity with the party and the leader. This loyalty is also the belief in sure victory and optimism that as long as there is the comrade supreme commander, the People's Army can smash any aggressor and win victory without fail.

This great mental power [chongsinryok], which firmly dominates the entire Army, represents the highest peak in the glorious history of our revolutionary Armed Forces, thus making our People's Army demonstrate its pride in being unrivaled iron-clad ranks.

Such ideological and mental traits by our Army are not temporary ones that were formed for one or two days. These traits are the inheritance of the lofty spirit of the anti-Japanese revolutionary martyrs who fought while foreseeing the bright future of Korea by looking up at the Paektu bright star [Kim Il-song]. These traits are the firm faith which is based on deep comprehension of greatness of the leader [yongdoja] in the midst of a rewarding struggle for chuche-orientation of the whole Army by following the great leader.

Accordingly, blood ties, which cannot be severed by anything, have been forged in our Army from a long time ago between the leader and fighters of the People's Army. These ties have been further consolidated.

Thanks to this, the loyalty to the party and the leader that has been highly demonstrated in our People's Army is spotlessly clean and is burning like a blazing fire.

Today all officers and men of the KPA are overflowing with a great pride in being the fighters of Comrade Kim Chong-il, the supreme commander.

Nothing is more honorable for those who are carrying out the revolution than to serve in the revolutionary Army by personally holding arms in their hands. This is because defending and protecting the leader [suryong] with armed force in the revolutionary struggle is the most sacred and important mission. Thus, the revolutionary Army is to fight by always cherishing a lofty pride.

Because the pride in being the fighters of the leader is lofty, the revolutionary Army is to break through a sea of blood and a sea of fire with optimism and highly demonstrate the matchless spirit of dedication and the heroic spirit in decisive battle against the enemy.

Today everyone in our People's Army, from a plain fighter to a general officer, is tenaciously fighting by deeply cherishing a great pride in being the fighters of comrade supreme commander. The entire Army is filled today with the revolutionary spirit of the anti-Japanese revolutionary fighters, who fought as the fighters of great General Kim Il-song and who wanted to be buried when they die in Mt. Paektu where the general was.

Our People's Army is heartily upholding the slogan, "We serve the comrade supreme commander!" This slogan reflects the motto in struggle and life and the resolution of officers and men of our People's Army to fight and live by dedicating their whole lives by always deeply cherishing the pride in being the revolutionary fighters of comrade supreme commander.

Thanks to this, the ranks of loyal fighters, who defend the party and the leader with armed forces wearing the revolutionary military uniform, have been consolidated.

Today the military service in our country is not a mere sacred mission of public citizens.

After the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il was elected as supreme commander, mother Kim Kwang-ju in Pyongyang sent her eight sons and daughters to the People's Army and let them all stand on sentry posts. This clearly shows how boundlessly our people long to be fighters of the comrade supreme commander.

Such proud stories as the above are innumerable in our society. Our People's Army has in-service seven brothers from a soldier family in Unryul, a father and his five sons serving in the Air Force, and triplet soldiers.

There is no such Army in the world as ours in which soldiers consider their military service in relation to their leader and party and regard it as the best honor and worth.

The pride and worth for our People's Army to become comrade supreme commander's fighters is clearly expressed in the fact that our soldiers are honorably defending their revolutionary sentry posts and excellently fulfilling their military duties.

Our People's Army has true commanders like Comrade Yi Pyong-se who has responsibly fulfilled his sentry duty on the single road without demanding any repute or repayment since he voluntarily guarded a remote sentry post in the mountains 20 years ago; faithful medical functionaries like Comrade Chang Hung-sop who, with warm comradeship, is displaying the spirit of sacrifice and responsibility in fulfilling the work of medical treatment; faithful soldiers like Comrade Jr. Sgt. Na Song-pok who devoted himself to preparing his unit for battle until the last moment of his life after he came out of the hospital while being aware of his incurable disease.

All of these innumerable known or unknown People's Army soldiers, whom the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il highly called true revolutionary fighters, are genuine revolutionaries who have excellently fulfilled their mission as the party's revolutionary fighters by devotedly struggling.

Such an ideological and spiritual trait of our People's Army, which is being highly displayed during peacetime, tells with high dignity that our soldiers will invariably glorify to the end the valuable title of revolutionary fighters that the party and the leader gave them in all severe trials.

Our People's Army is advancing with the revolutionary sense of duty and comradeship, firmly united around the comrade supreme commander.

Unity is a noble political and moral trait of the revolutionary Army. Because of ideological unity and common classic position, the revolutionary Army can be united firmly in the revolutionary sense of duty and comradeship with the party and the leader as its center, and the unity between officers and men and between soldiers and people can brilliantly be realized.

In nature, the revolutionary Army can neither exist even for a moment nor win a battle with enemies without being united as one. It is the revolutionary Army that displays a sense of duty and comradeship at a lofty, high level during the arduous revolutionary struggle. Also it is the revolutionary Army that values and firmly keeps unity like the life.

For the firm unity with a sense of duty and comradeship around its leader and supreme commander, the revolutionary Army becomes a most strongly united and mighty rank.

Today our People's Army becomes a single-hearted rank firmly united around the party and the leader and a virginal united body of ideology and will that thinks and moves like one according to the ideology, intent, orders, and instructions of the comrade supreme commander.

The revolutionary trait of wholeheartedly upholding the comrade supreme commander, of struggling through fire and water to advocate and defend the authority of the party and the leader is being highly displayed in this rank.

The feat registered by Comrade Han Yong-chol, hero of the Republic, who protected a portrait of the great leader by throwing himself on an exploding grenade, as well as the lofty spiritual world of Comrade O Ha-yong, political functionary, who died a heroic death after carrying the great leader's portrait out of a fire by running into the fierce fire without hesitation, explains well how thorough our People's Army soldiers' faith and sense of duty is in trusting and following only the party and the leader.

Because the revolutionary sense of duty and comradeship is highly displayed around the party and the leader, our People's Army has achieved the thorough unity between officers and men and between party members and League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea members.

In our Army, both commanders and soldiers are fighters of the comrade supreme commander and are precious revolutionary comrades who share intentions and destiny with each other.

Therefore, commanders care for and love soldiers just as their own offspring by always living with the soldiers while soldiers respect and follow the commanders.

Since commanders and soldiers, and party members and members of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea share joy and pains and destiny on the road of upholding the party and the leader, Comrades Yi Wonkuk and Chon Se-nok, heroes of the Republic, threw their bodies without hesitation beneath the flat tire of a truck and rescued scores of soldiers and people, thus creating heroic exploits, and Comrade Kim Chol-nam, deputy squad leader, saved the lives of his platoon leader and comrades-in-arms by covering up an exploding mine with his own body, thus demonstrating the spirit of sacrifice. Comrade Yi Chan-su, deputy platoon leader, prevented with his body the danger, which came unexpectedly while engaged in engineering work, and rescued precious lives of comrades-in-arms, thus demonstrating a fine example of revolutionary comradeship.

No one can find such an Army in this world as the one filled with revolutionary comradeship to unhesitatingly sacrifice one's own life for one's comrades.

In our People's Army, soldiers respect their commanders like their own elder brothers while commanders and officers hold dear and love soldiers. For this, our People's Army has become a strong one united body in which all officers and men are linked with each other ideologically and with blood ties with the comrade supreme commander as their center.

In our People's Army, the entire party achieved unity and is connected with people with blood ties. Today the military-civilian unity has become a noble outlook of our army which is endlessly loyal to the party and the leader.

Laudable episodes about 25 soldiers from the unit to which Comrade Yo Man-yong belonged who visited the hometown of a sacrificed comrade to help the people politically and with labor even during their special vacation time; about the self-sacrificing spirit of four soldiers, including Comrade Yu Ki-chol from the unit to which Comrade (Tong Myong-ae) belonged, who rescued the lives of children by throwing themselves into a flooding river; about the soldiers including Comrade Choe Yong-kil from the unit to which Comrade Yi Yong-sop belonged who protected farm lands from heavy rain with their bodies, show that the fine custom of military-civilian unity in our Army is in full bloom at a new higher stage.

Because there is such a People's Army which always loves and helps the people, and struggles by dedicating all its might and wisdom to saving their lives and property, blood ties between the Army and people have been forged in our society, and the unity and cohesion among the party, the Army and the people have been consolidated.

Our People's Army is filled with faith in certain victory and revolutionary optimism to accomplish the chuche revolutionary cause to the end by resolutely smashing all the enemy's maneuvers under the leadership of comrade supreme commander.

For soldiers holding rifles in their hands, confidence in victory and the fighting spirit are as precious as their own life. The revolutionary Army with faith in certain victory and optimism can crush any strong enemy without even a slightest wavering and win victory. But the Army without confidence cannot overcome even a minor difficulty and is doomed to suffer defeat.

From the outset, the revolutionary Army had to break through all trials at the van of other ranks and to shed much blood in decisive battle against the enemy. Therefore, this army has strong will power and thoroughgoing faith.

Faith in certain victory and willpower can be generated and be firmly preserved only when one upholds the genius in the military and iron-willed commander as supreme commander.

Today, officers and men of our People's Army are overflowing with confidence and optimism that by following the leadership of the comrade supreme commander, they can accomplish the chuche socialist cause, which was pioneered at the Paektu forest, to the end.

Taking advantage of the frustration of socialism in some countries, the U.S. imperialists and enemies of the revolution are more viciously waging the anti-Republic maneuvers while concentrating the spearhead of attack on our country.

However, our People's Army which is endlessly loyal to the party and leader does not waver in whatever stormy wind, and is blazing with every confidence of fighting spirit to smash at a stroke the imperialists' aggressive maneuver.

Pak Yong-chol's eight brothers who are all officers and men wrote a letter to the comrade supreme commander which was filled with the determination of do-or-die spirit and rockhard will to become eight stands of guns and eight bombs to safeguard and defend the party and leader. Our Army's faith of victory and will are pulsating in their ideological and spiritual world.

Since Comrade Kim Chong-il is being upheld as the supreme commander of the KPA we can easily defeat attack by any powerful enemy, and the whole Army is overflowing with confidence that it can be victorious without fail. Therefore, our Army and people are overflowing with faith and will fight without fear, redoubled courage, and with high spirits regardless of how the world changes.

Our People's Army's firm will is to have faith only in the party and leader and overcome critical moments together at a time when it is difficult and complicated. Whenever we underwent difficult crisis during the days of the past history, our People's Army had faith only in the party and the leader; safeguarded and defended the leader with its life; and unyieldingly walked along the one road of the revolution.

During the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle period, under the slogan of "Let us defend to the last the headquarters of the revolution," our Army fought to defend the headquarters. During the difficult post-war period when the antiparty and antipeople factionalists were challenging the party, our People's Army highly upheld the slogan of "Let us defend to the last the party central committee led by the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song," and defended and fought for the purity of the party's cohesion and unity.

This kind of traditional character is being succeeded and highly manifested in the struggle to resolutely safeguard and defend the chuche socialist cause which is in accordance with the leadership of the comrade supreme commander today. Even though a wretched storm blows in this world and the heaven and earth are turned over hundreds of times, the exact will of the officers and men of our People's Army is to have faith in, follow, and share the fate forever with the respected and beloved comrade supreme commander.

If a period of rigorous trials draws near, regardless of who they are the officers and men of the People's Army will become a fortress and shield who safeguard with their lives the comrade supreme commander, as was the case of heroes Kim Chin and Yi Su-pok who blocked the enemy's gun muzzle by highly resounding the words of "Hurrah to General Kim Il-song." Also, in the life-and-death battle to defeat the enemy, they are blazing with the single mind to fight by sacrificing their lives while shouting with their hearts "Hurrah to Comrade Kim Chong-il." There is no strength in this world to prevent the vigorous advance of our Army which is possessed with the heart of a life-and-death determination and fighting spirit.

The lofty political and moral trait, which is being highly manifested today in our People's Army, can be carried out only in our country which is fostered in the bosom of our party and is receiving the chuche socialist indoctrination. Regardless of who they are, the officers and men of our People's Army are revolutionary fighters who grew up amid the great leader's [yongdoja] helping hand. It is needless to say for the anti-Japanese revolutionary fighters and the war veterans who participated in the Fatherland Liberation War. The new generations who bear the gun are armed with our party's chuche idea and are people who received socialist indoctrination.

Especially, the third and fourth generations of the revolution who emerged as the main force of our Army are a revolutionary generation who received the chuche education systematically and were raised amid the party's bosom after liberation. Even though they did not experience exploitation and oppression like their parents and did not suffer the rigorous trials of war, they are experiencing in their hearts how the gains of our revolution were obtained through the bloody struggle and how sacred and honorable a work it is to defend socialism in conformity with the leadership of the party and leader.

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It is the rock-hard will of the third and fourth generations of the revolution with guns in their hands to defend and safeguard the chuche socialist cause through generations, upholding the comrade supreme commander as did the first and second generations that were endlessly loyal to the great general. Thus, our People's Army is firmly succeeded generation after generation.

Our party has brought up such an excellent revolutionary Army, and the socialism of our own style makes our Army's political and moral trait advance even further. Invincible is our party with our People's Army that is endlessly loyal to the party and the leader.

The party and the Army are the destiny and life of the people. The working class party is a guide leading the socialist cause, and the revolutionary army is a reliable guard of the party's cause.

When the party and the revolutionary Army are strong, the socialist cause can victoriously advance under any stormy circumstances.

In the revolutionary struggle, the party and the Army are linked in one life. We can neither think of the party's invincible might without the army, nor say about the revolutionary Army's might without the party's leadership.

The party and the Army is a united body, which is the mighty strength pushing ahead with the revolution and construction. Only with the unity of the party and the Army, we would have nothing unable to do and no fortress unable to occupy in the world even if the revolution faces severe trials.

With the revolutionary Army, the party can have unlimited might and vigorously lead the revolution and construction along the ever-victorious single road.

The past anti-Japanese struggle was really arduous and rugged. Under the condition without the rear guaranteed by the state or the support by the regular Army, our Army had to fight against the Japanese imperialists armed from head to foot, while managing everything by itself.

However, incomparably firm was the loyalty of our Army with determination to fight relying on only the great general. This spiritual might was the main source that enabled the anti-Japanese guerrilla, which the Japanese imperialists called a short-lived force, to defeat the strong enemies.

Also, without the loyalty of our Army that fought in firm unity around the great general, we cannot think of the historic victory in the Fatherland Liberation War achieved after smashing the U.S. imperialists, which was proud of its strongest power in the world.

The historic experience of our revolution through all ages clearly proves that the revolutionary Army endlessly loyal to the party and the leader is invincible and can win battles against any strong enemies.

The factor decisive of victory or defeat in a battle is not in certain weapons or technique, but in the Army's ideological and spiritual state of fighting with self-consciousness of the justness of its cause.

Invincible might of the revolutionary Army lies in its political and ideological superiority. The sublime revolutionary spirit of all officers and men, who are willing to devote their youth and lives to fighting for the sake of the party and the leader, firmly guarantees the brilliant prospect of the party and the revolution.

The endless loyalty to the party and the leader, which is overflowing in our People's Army today, makes us solidly foresee the bright future of our party and the revolution.

Thanks to such reliable armed forces of the People's Army, our people are firmly defending the gains of the revolution while confronting strong enemies. Because it has the one-a-match-for-100 revolutionary Army, our party is victoriously advancing the chuche revolutionary cause without any slightest stir under any stormy circumstances while adhering to the revolutionary principles.

Today, all the people firmly trust our People's Army and actively render material and spiritual support to the People's Army. Thanks to the People's Army with invincible might, our people feel safe and are filled with the firm confidence that they can consummate the chuche socialist cause to the end.

Our party and people are greatly proud of our People's Army that is endlessly loyal to the party and the leader. Our People's Army is a brilliant successor of the honorable revolutionary tradition as well as a reliable guard that defends and safeguards its leader, party, system, and fatherland.

Firm and steady is the revolutionary spirit of our Army today, which is willing to faithfully fight in single-hearted unity around the party and the leader.

Our People's Army will keep to the end the pledge it swore by the comrade supreme commander and will endlessly glorify its honor as the Army of the party, the revolution, and the people.

May the honor be with the heroic People's Army officers and men endlessly loyal to the party and the leader!

Importance of 'Establishing Chuche'

SK1112141392 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1007 GMT 11 Dec 92

["Establishing Chuche is Fundamental Requirement of Building of Revolutionary Party and Its Activities"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang December 11 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today carries a signed article titled "Establishing Chuche is Fundamental Requirement of Building of a Revolutionary Party and Its Activities."

The article says the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il in his immortal classical work "*On the Fundamental Questions of Revolutionary Party Building*" said that ruling parties under socialism and socialist system collapsed in some countries one after another because they failed to establish chuche in party building and activities and made clear that establishing chuche is the fundamental requirement of the building of a revolutionary party of the working-class and its activities.

Establishing chuche in party building and activities, it says, is the intrinsic demand of a revolutionary party of the working class and the lawful requirement of our era and developing revolution.

It is only when the working-class party shapes lines and policies of its own accord in keeping with the desire of its people and the specific conditions of its country and carries them out in reliance upon the strength of its people, strictly abiding by the principle of chuche, that all the members of society can be freed from all manner of subjugation and yokes and the independence of the popular masses be fully realised, it says.

The validity of our party's idea and theory of establishing chuche in party building and activities has clearly been proved in today's revolutionary practice, the article says, and adds: The present reality that ruling parties under socialism and socialist system collapsed in succession in some countries shows that a party makes a mess of the revolution and construction and ruins itself as well, if it fails to establish chuche and takes to flunkeyism.

Criticizes ROK Chondaehyop Investigation

SK0712112892 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1005 GMT 7 Dec 92

["Crooked Hand Stretched to Campus"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang December 7 (KCNA)—The South Korean fascist authorities are making a fuss of investigation into students, charging that the National Council of Student Representatives (Chondaehyop) has conducted propaganda activities against a specified "candidate" on the threshold of the "presidential election."

Hitting out at this, a NODONG SINMUN analyst today says:

The South Korean ruling force is patronizing and backing the "democratic liberal party" group while madly cracking down on the democratic forces with the "election" drawing near.

The evermore frantic sword-brandishing of the military fascist group is a prelude to a repressive "election" for blocking a powerful action of democratic forces in the "election" and staying in power.

Students are now taking the van in the struggle of people of all walks of life to put an end to military dictatorship and establish a democratic government in South Korea. The South Korean ruling quarters regard it as a big obstacle to their stay in power and a headache.

The South Korean military fascist group which regards the activities of Chondaehyop as a thorn in its flesh is attempting to hold the "election" without a hitch by binding them hand and foot at any cost.

The South Korean ruling quarters are claiming that their suppression of campus is for a "fair election." But this is a ruse to deceive the people and a sophism to justify the sword-brandishing challenging democracy.

If the South Korean ruling force has the intention to hold the "election" fairly from a neutral stand, it should, first of all, take a step to terminate the fascist "security-oriented rule" and stop the suppression of people.

Denounces Japan's Nuclear Policy

SK0912070692 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0458 GMT 9 Dec 92

["NODONG SINMUN on Nuclear Armament of Japan"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang December 9 (KCNA)—The "white paper" recently endorsed by the Japanese cabinet outlines a plan to build large-scale reprocessing facilities for extracting plutonium from spent nuclear fuel and calls for continuing the shipment of plutonium as it is "safe".

It makes it Japan's policy to secure reprocessing facilities and ship plutonium and shows once again that Japan is heading for nuclear armament in real earnest, notes NODONG SINMUN today.

The news analyst says:

The point is why Japan is moving toward her nuclear armament and conversion into a nuclear power. Is it to defend herself? No.

An official of the Japanese Foreign Ministry said: "We had better not give up the possibility of the option of nuclear armament as a support for Japan's diplomacy."

This reveals the ulterior intention of Japan in hastening her nuclear armament and conversion into a nuclear power.

Japan schemes to behave as a political power commensurate with an economic power, realize overseas expansion and seize the hegemony of the world by wielding nuclear weapons.

The Japanese authorities are shamelessly spreading the false rumour about "nuclear suspicion" against the DPRK in an attempt to conceal their moves to build Japan into a nuclear power.

Team Spirit 'Unreasonable'

SK0812053292 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0500 GMT 8 Dec 92

["Resumption of Team Spirit Cannot Be Justified"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang December 8 (KCNA)—The United States and the South Korean authorities have no justification for the resumption of the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises. If they truly want the promotion of reconciliation between the North and the South and the peace and reunification on the Korean peninsula, they must not resume this war gamble. This is the press tone in Pyongyang today.

A news analyst of NODONG SINMUN says:

A new phase of reconciliation and peaceful reunification is opening in the North-South relations thanks to the North's consistent and sincere efforts. A clear proof of this is the adoption of the inter-Korean agreement, the joint declaration on denuclearisation and the inauguration of joint committees for their realization.

Such being the situation, it is self-evident that there is no need at all to resume the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises. It is a very wrong act not understandable to anyone to scheme to stage the "Team Spirit" which was suspended before the adoption of the North-South agreement and the joint declaration on denuclearisation today when the North and the South adopted and effectuated the agreement and have entered the stage of carrying it into practice.

The United States cannot be justified either in its scheme to resume this war gamble by taking issue with the North's "nuclear problem". We signed the nuclear safeguards accord and are undergoing inspection by the International Atomic Energy Agency and actively cooperating with it. It is unreasonable to resume the "Team Spirit" under the pretext of the fictitious "nuclear problem" of the North.

It is untenable to resume the war exercises in view of the trend of the international situation either.

In case the "Team Spirit" military exercises are resumed, the United States and the South Korean authorities will be held entirely responsible for all the consequences arising therefrom, warns the paper.

'Condemns' ROK Military Exercises

SK0812051692 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0443 GMT 8 Dec 92

["Dangerous Military Racket"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang December 8 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today condemns the South Korean military fascist group for having illegally infiltrated an armed helicopter into the demilitarized zone (DMZ) south of

Ipo-ri, Kumgang county, Kangwon Province, in the eastern sector of the front on December 4.

The news analyst says:

The armed helicopter flew from the sky above Hyon-ri, Inje county, South Korean Kangwon Province, into the sky above the DMZ and landed on the spot 1,000 metres south of marker No. 1090 of the Military Demarcation Line. The warplanes mobilized in air war exercises against the North in the South Korean skies that day numbered some 660. This military racket coincided with a string of bellicose outbursts let loose by the South Korean authorities and brasshats against the North.

This is dangerous enough to cause a grave consequence on the Korean peninsula. The anti-peace criminal act can never be overlooked.

The South Korean authorities are deliberately aggravating the situation on the Korean peninsula in collusion with outside forces behind the facade of North-South dialogue and openly perpetrating military provocations in wanton violation of the North-South agreement.

The South Korean authorities must ponder over the grave consequences that might result from their dangerous military adventures and desist from the war racket against the North.

KCNA Views History of Construction Developments

SK1112002192 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1530 GMT 10 Dec 92

[Text] Pyongyang December 10 (KCNA)—The Korean people have recorded a proud history of change in their socialist country by stepping up revolution and construction for nearly 40 years after the [word indistinct] thousands of modern industrial establishments, towns and rural villages have been built and solid foundations of an independent national economy laid in this land where everything was reduced to debris by the U.S.-launched barbarous war of aggression.

Every edifice built by the Korean people is associated with the great feats of veteran fighters who valiantly struggle in defence of the freedom and independence of the country during the Fatherland Liberation War (1950-1953).

They rebuilt the destroyed industrial establishments and dwelling houses for people under the slogan of the Workers' Party of Korea "Everything for the postwar rehabilitation and development of the national economy to strengthen the democratic base!" the difficult period of postwar rehabilitation and construction as they fought on the front. Therefore, the Korean people rehabilitated and commissioned 100-odd industrial establishments including the Nampho smeltery complex, the Pyongyang textile combine and the Huichon machine tool complex and built dwelling houses with a total floor space of 620,000 square metres and schools within 300,000 square metres in towns and wookers' settlements in the first half of 1954, less than one year after the war.

In the latter half of the 1950's when the Chollima movement was at its height veteran fighters took the lead in creating new norms and new records in production and construction as forerunners of this movement.

In this period, Korea produced such machines and equipment as trucks, Chollima tractors, bulldozers and water pumps for the first time and effected technical innovations to turn out 120,000 tons of rolled steel from a blooming mill with a rated capacity of 60,000 tons and 13,000 machine tools outside the state plan in one year.

In the period of the great socialist construction they, as standard-bearers of ranks, made a big contribution to building grand monumental edifices with their technology and efforts, arousing young builders to feats. All the social [word indistinct] the country is associated with the devoted efforts of veteran fighters.

The Workers' Party of Korea and the DPRK Government, setting great store by the veteran fighters who performed heroic feats during the Fatherland Liberation War and have devoted their whole life to the country and the people, put them forward as heroes, unassuming men of merits and excellent models the young people should follow.

Army Friendship Delegation Returns From China Visit

SK0812023692 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1500 GMT 3 Dec 92

[Text] A Korean People's Army [KPA]'s friendship delegation led by Chon Chae-son, KPA General, returned home by train on 3 December after winding up a visit to China. Yi Chong-san, KPA General, and a military attache of the PRC embassy in our country met the delegation at Pyongyang station.

South Korea

PRC President Yang Shangkun 'Likely' To Visit Seoul in 1993

SK1512022392 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 0200 GMT 15 Dec 92

[Text] Chinese President Yang Shangkun will likely visit our country early next year for the first time in his capacity as state president.

A high-ranking government official said: In his meeting with Vice Prime Minister Choe Kak-kyu, who recently visited China, President Yang Shangkun expressed his intention to visit the ROK. It is more likely that he will visit the ROK before 24 February 1993, the day President No Tae-u retires from office.

'Enraged' No Tae-u Approves Dismissal of Pusan Mayor

SK1512111392 Seoul YONHAP in English 1045 GMT 15 Dec 92

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 15 (YONHAP)—The government Tuesday afternoon relieved Pusan Mayor Kim Yong-hwan of his mayoralty and named Pak Pu-chan, third administration coordinator of the office of the prime minister, to succeed Kim as Pusan mayor.

The reshuffle came hours after the United People's Party exposed that the Pusan mayor and six other senior officials of Pusan secretly met last Friday to discuss ways to help Kim Yong-sam of the Democratic Liberal Party get elected in the upcoming presidential election.

On the reshuffle, Prime Minister Hyon Sung-chong said, "though the meeting at issue was a private gathering arranged by a former minister, it is extremely regrettable that the mayor attended such a meeting at a highly sensitive time."

The prime minister who is leading a neutral caretaker cabinet instructed Justice Minister Yi Chong-u to have prosecution launch an investigation of the meeting promptly and take legal actions against any people found to have attended it unlawfully. Prime Minister Hyon also handed out the instructions that proper actions be taken against other attendees, too, by their respective supervisory ministers depending on the outcome of prosecution probe.

Meanwhile, Chongwadae spokesman Kim Hak-chun said that President No Tae-u was enraged on receipt of a report on the secret meeting in Pusan by Prime Minister Hyon, and gave free hands to the premier in the selection of a new Pusan mayor.

Officials To Attend Mekong Development Project Meeting

SK1412090592 Seoul YONHAP in English 0814 GMT 14 Dec 92

[Text] Bangkok, Dec. 14 (YONHAP)—The United Nations Development Program (UNDP) will sponsor a two-day international meeting in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, on Thursday to kick off next year's Mekong Basin Development Project, in which South Korea will take part officially for the first time.

The committee for coordination of investigations of the lower Mekong Basin, created in 1957 by Thailand, Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia, aims to develop the river that flows through the Indochinese Peninsula. Rich with fish and natural resources, the Mekong is regarded as one of the world's eight major rivers and has attracted much interest from the international community since the government-level committee was formed. But the committee was crippled in 1978 with Vietnam's invasion of Cambodia, and was managed without Cambodia by a three-way interim committee.

The 35th Bangkok meeting in February, 1992, was also fruitless due to a disagreement between Thailand and Vietnam over the reentry of Cambodia. It was agreed to hold a meeting with Vietnam included in December at the mediation of the UNDP.

Much hope is pinned on this week's conference, which will discuss the development plan in detail and finalize the project blueprint.

Apart from member countries, it will be participated by 14 financially aiding, or cooperating countries, including South Korea, and international organizations.

Korea will be joining the Kuala Lumpur meeting as an official cooperating country as it plans to donate 400,000 U.S. dollars to the 1993-1994 Ya-Soup multipurpose project. Korea attended the 31st and 33rd meetings on the Mekong project, which involves basin planning, and mainstream and tributary developments, as an observer. Two Foreign Ministry officials, including Mun Ha-yong, director of the economic organizations division, will represent Seoul.

Paper Publishes DPRK Constitution

SK1012065292 Seoul NAEWOE TONGSIN in Korean 26 Nov 92

["Socialist Constitution of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea"—NAEWOE TONGSIN headline]

[Text] **Chapter 1. Politics**

Article 1. The Democratic People's Republic of Korea is an independent socialist state that represents the interests of all the Korean people.

Article 2. The Democratic People's Republic of Korea is a glorious revolutionary power that opposes the imperialist aggressors and seeks the realization of national liberation and the freedom and happiness of the people.

Article 3. The Democratic People's Republic of Korea makes chuche ideology, a revolutionary ideology with a people-centered view of the world that aims towards the realization of the independence of the masses, the guiding principle of its actions.

Article 4. The sovereignty of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea rests with the workers, peasants, working intelligentsia, and all working people.

The working people exercise their sovereignty through their representative organs—the Supreme People's Assembly and the local People's Committees at various levels.

Article 5. All state organs within the Democratic People's Republic of Korea are organized and operated on the principle of democratic centralism.

Article 6. From the county People's Committees up to the Supreme People's Assembly, each organ of power is elected on the principle of universal, equal, and direct suffrage by secret ballot.

Article 7. Deputies for each organ of power have a close connection with the voters, and are accountable to the electors for their activities.

Article 8. The Democratic People's Republic of Korea's socialist society is a people-centered social system in which the working masses are the masters of everything, and everything within society is geared to the working masses.

The state protects and defends the interests of the workers, peasants, and working intellectuals who, having been liberated from exploitation and oppression, have become masters of society and the state.

Article 9. The Democratic People's Republic of Korea strengthens the people's government and brings about the complete victory of socialism in the northern half through the execution of the three revolutions of ideology, technology, and culture, while struggling for the realization of unification of the fatherland on the principles of independence, peaceful unification, and grand national unity.

Article 10. The Democratic People's Republic of Korea is based upon the political-ideological unity of all the people which derives from the worker's league that guides the working class.

The state revolutionizes all members of society and imbues them with the working class spirit by strengthening the ideological revolution, making the entire society into a single, unified group in a comradely way.

Article 11. The Democratic People's Republic of Korea carries out all its activities under the leadership of the Korean Workers Party.

Article 12. The state strongly defends the people's sovereignty and the socialist system from the destructive maneuvering of both internal and external hostile elements by maintaining the class line and by strengthening the people's democratic dictatorship.

Article 13. The state embodies the mass line and, in all its work, thoroughly implements the Chongsan-ri spirit and Chongsan-ri method in which the upper echelon assists the lower echelon, a means is sought by which to go within the masses and solve problems, and self-conscious enthusiasm is aroused by giving priority to work with the people.

Article 14. The state expedites the construction of socialism to the greatest degree possible by the energetic conduct of mass movements, such as the Movement to Win the Three Revolution Red Flag.

Article 15. The Democratic People's Republic of Korea defends the democratic, national rights of overseas Koreans and their legitimate rights under international law.

Article 16. The Democratic People's Republic of Korea guarantees the legitimate rights and interests of foreigners within its territory.

Article 17. Independence, peace, and friendship form the basic ideology of the DPRK's foreign policy and are the principles of its foreign activities.

The state establishes diplomatic as well as political, economic, and cultural relations with all friendly countries on the principles of complete equality, independence, mutual respect, noninterference in each other's internal affairs, and mutual benefit.

The state actively supports and encourages the struggles of people in countries that unite with all the peoples of the world that defend independence, oppose all forms of aggression and internal interference, and work towards realizing independent sovereignty along with nationalist and class liberation.

Article 18. Laws of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea reflect the will and interests of the working people, and are the basic weapon of state administration.

Respect for and strict abidance and enforcement of the law is mandatory for organizations, enterprises, groups, and citizens at all levels.

Chapter 2. Economy

Article 19. In the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, socialist production relations are based upon the foundation of an independent, national economy.

Article 20. In the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the means of production are owned solely by the state and cooperative organizations.

Article 21. State property belongs to the whole people. There is no limit to the properties that the state may own.

All natural resources of the country, major factories and enterprises, ports, banks, transportation and telecommunications establishments are owned solely by the state.

The state places priority on protecting and expanding state property that plays a leading role in the economic development of the country.

Article 22. Property of collectively owned organizations is collectively owned by the working people involved in the cooperative economy.

Land, draft animals, farm implements, fishing boats, and buildings, as well as small and medium factories and enterprises may be owned by cooperative organizations.

Article 23. The state raises the ideological consciousness and technology culture level of the peasants, increasing the guiding role played by property of the whole people as concerns cooperative property aimed at an organic synthesis of the two types of property. The state strengthens and develops the socialist cooperative economic system and gradually transforms the property of collective organizations into the property of all the people on the basis of the voluntary will of the entire membership.

Article 24. Personal property is property for personal use by the working people for the purpose of consumption.

The personal property of the working people derives from the socialist distribution according to work done and from additional benefits granted by the state and society.

The products from inhabitants' supplementary husbandry including those from the small garden plots of cooperative farmers are also personal property. The state protects the private property of the working people, and guarantees by law their right to inherit it.

Article 25. The Democratic People's Republic of Korea sets as its supreme principle of activities the unceasing improvement of the people's material and cultural life.

In our country, where taxes have disappeared, the endlessly increasing material wealth of society is returned in full to promoting the welfare of the working people.

The state provides the working people with all conditions necessary so that they may eat, dress, and live.

Article 26. The independent national economy that has been created in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea forms a solid basis for a happy socialist life and for the independent development of the fatherland.

The state seizes the socialist self-dependent national economy construction line by expediting the development of chuche, modernization, and scientification of the people's economy to create a chuche economy in which the people's economy is developed to a high degree, while struggling to amass a material technical basis suitable for a complete socialist economy.

Article 27. The technological revolution is the basic link in developing the socialist economy.

The state always gives priority to issues of technological development in carrying out economic activities. It expedites science and technology development as well as the technological reconstruction of the people economy, strongly carrying out the technological innovation movement to free the working people from difficult and arduous labor and narrow the difference between physical and mental labor.

Article 28. The state, in order to eliminate the differences between urban and rural areas as well as class distinctions between the working class and peasants, expedites the technological revolution in the countryside to industrialize agriculture, enhances the role of the country, and strengthens its guidance and assistance to the countryside.

Article 29. Socialism and communism are constructed according to the creative labor of the working masses.

Labor within the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is the independent and creative labor of the working people who have been freed from exploitation and oppression.

The state works to make the labor of our working people, who are ignorant of unemployment, more enjoyable, so as to make it worthwhile labor in which the workers work with conscious enthusiasm and creativity for society, the group, and themselves.

Article 30. The working day is eight hours long.

The state may reduce the length of the working day depending upon the degree of difficulty and the special conditions for work.

The state works to ensure that working hours are fully utilized through the proper organization of labor and the strengthening of labor discipline.

Article 31. In the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the minimum working age for citizens is 16 years old. The state prohibits work by children under the working age.

Article 32. The state, in its guidance and management of the socialist economy, firmly maintains the principle of properly integrating political and economic-technical guidance, the integrated guidance of the state and the creativity found at every unit level, unitary leadership and democracy, and political-moral and material incentives.

Article 33. The state directs and manages the nation's economy through the Taean work system, a form of socialist economic management whereby the economy is managed and operated scientifically and rationally on the basis of the collective strength of the producer masses, as well as through the agricultural guidance system whereby agricultural management is guided by industrial methods.

Article 34. The national economy of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is a planned economy.

In accordance with the laws of economic development of socialism, the state develops and implements plans for the development of the national economy so that economic construction is expedited with a proper balance between accumulation and consumption, the people's living standards is steadily raised, and the nation's defense potential may be strengthened.

The state ensures a high rate of growth in production and a balanced development of the national economy by implementing a policy of unified and detailed planning.

Article 35. The Democratic People's Republic of Korea compiles and implements the state budget according to the national economic development plan.

The state shall strengthen the struggle for increased production and economization in all sectors and shall enforce strict financial control so that the state can systematically increase state accumulation and expand and develop socialist property.

Article 36. External trade in the DPRK shall be conducted by the state or under the supervision of the state.

The state shall develop external trade under the principles of complete equality and reciprocity.

Article 37. The state shall encourage joint operation and joint venture enterprise between our country's agencies, enterprises, and organizations and other countries' juridical persons or individuals.

Article 38. The state shall enforce tariff policy in order to protect the self-reliant national economy.

Chapter 3. Culture

Article 39. The socialist culture which is coming into bloom and developing in the DPRK shall contribute to enhancing the working people's creative ability and to meeting their sound cultural and mental demands.

Article 40. The DPRK shall thoroughly carry out the cultural revolution, lead all the people to become socialist and communist builders with deep knowledge of nature and society and of a high cultural, techonological level, and assimilate society into intelligentsia.

Article 41. The DPRK shall construct genuinely people-oriented, revolutionary culture which serves the socialist working people.

The state shall oppose the imperialists' cultural infiltration and restorationist tendency in constructing socialist national culture and shall preserve national cultural inheritences and inherit and develop them in conformity with socialist realities.

Article 42. The state eliminates the way of life that is a remnant of the old society and establishes the new socialist way of life in all fields.

Article 43. The state implements the principles of socialist pedagogy and brings up the rising generation to be steadfast revolutionaries who fight for society and the people, to be new communist men who are knowledgeable, virtuous, and healthy.

Article 44. The state gives top priority to public education and the training of national cadres above all other tasks, closely blending general education with technical education and education with productive labor.

Article 45. The state develops a mandatory 11-year education system, including one year of preschool education, with high standards commensurate with trends in the development of modern science and technology and meeting the realistic demands of socialist construction.

Article 46. The state develops the education system for the regular system of education as well as various forms of education for those who study part-time while working, fostering capable technicians and experts by raising the scientific and theoretical levels of technical, social science, and basic science education.

Article 47. The state educates all students at no cost and provides scholarships to students of colleges and professional schools.

Article 48. The state strengthens social education, guaranteeing all conditions necessary to allow the working people to study.

Article 49. The state brings up all children of preschool age in nurseries and kindergartens at the state's and society's expense.

Article 50. The state raises the nation's science and technology to international standards by establishing chuche in scientific research, actively accepting advanced science and technology, and pioneering new fields of science and technology.

Article 51. The state properly establishes a science and technology development plan, establishes rules for its absolute execution, and promotes science and technology development of the country by strengthening the creative cooperation between scientists, technicians, and producers.

Article 52. The state develops chuche-oriented and revolutionary literature and art, national in form and socialist in content.

The state creates conditions allowing writers and artists to create many works with high degrees of ideological and artistic qualities, as well as conditions under which a wide-spectrum of the masses may participate in literary and artistic activities.

Article 53. All workers are allowed by the state to enjoy a cultural and spiritual socialist life, providing them with adequate modern cultural facilities to meet the demands of people who continuously strive to develop themselves spiritually and physically.

Article 54. The state protects our language from all forms of stratagem aimed at destroying our national language, while also developing the language to meet modern needs.

Article 55. The state pursues a plan for making physical fitness available to the masses and part of everyone's daily lives so as to prepare all people for work and national defense and develops physical fitness technology commensurate with our nation's conditions and trends in modern physical fitness technology development.

Article 56. The state consolidates and develops the universal free medical service system, strengthens the district-doctor system, and promotes a policy of preventive medical care so as to protect lives and promote the health of the working people.

Article 57. The state sets environment protection measures ahead of production, preserves and creates the natural environment, and creates a cultural and sanitary living environment and work conditions for the people by preventing environmental pollution.

Chapter 4. National Defense

Article 58. The Democratic People's Republic of Korea depends upon a nation-wide and state-wide defense system.

Article 59. The mission of the Armed Forces in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is to defend the interests of the working people, defend the socialist system and the gains of the revolution from external invasion, and protect the freedom, independence, and peace of the fatherland.

Article 60. The state pursues a self-reliant national defense line, built upon the foundation of arming all the military and all the people politically and ideologically, with arming all the populace, turning the entire country into a fortress, converting the entire Army into a cadre arm, and modernizing the entire army as its basic contents.

Article 61. The state will work to strengthen military discipline within the military as well as discipline of the masses, enhancing the traditional lofty virtue of unity between officer and enlisted and unity between the military and civilian populace.

Chapter 5. Fundamental Rights and Duties of Citizens

Article 62. The Democratic People's Republic of Korea stipulates by law the condition to become a citizen according to citizenship.

Regardless of the residence of a citizen, he receives the protection of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Article 63. In the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the rights and duties of citizens are based on the collectivist principle of "One for all and all for one."

Article 64. The state effectively guarantees genuine democratic rights and liberties as well as the material and cultural well-being of all citizens.

In the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the rights and freedoms of citizens increase with the consolidation and development of the socialist system.

Article 65. Citizens all enjoy the same rights in all spheres of state social life.

Article 66. All citizens who have reached the age of 17 have the right to elect and be elected irrespective of sex, race, occupation, length of residence, property status, education, party affiliation, political views, and religion.

Citizens serving in the Armed Forces also have the right to elect and be elected.

Insane persons and those deprived by court decision of the right to vote are denied the right to elect and be elected.

Article 67. Citizens have freedom of speech, publishing, assembly, demonstration, and association.

The state guarantees conditions for the free activities of democratic political parties and social organizations.

Article 68. Citizens have freedom of religious belief. This right also guarantees the right to building buildings for religious use, as well as religious ceremonies.

No one may use religion as a means by which to drag in foreign powers or to destroy the state or social order.

Article 69. Citizens are entitled to make appeals and submit petitions. Appeals and petitions must be looked into and dealt with by procedures and institutions stipulated by law.

Article 70. Citizens have the right to work.

All able citizens capable of working may choose occupations according to their desire and skills, and are guaranteed stable jobs and working conditions.

Citizens work according to their ability and receive remuneration in accordance with the quantity and quality of work done.

Article 71. Citizens have the right to rest.

This right is ensured by a system of working hours, a holiday system, paid leave system, sanitoriums and rest homes funded at state expense, and by an ever-expanding network of cultural facilities.

Article 72. Citizens are entitled to free medical care, and persons who have lost the ability to work because of old age, sickness, or deformity, and old people and children with no guardians to watch after them have the right to material assistance.

This right is ensured by free medical care, a growing network of hospitals, sanatoria, and other medical institutions, and the state social insurance and security system.

Article 73. Citizens have the right to be educated.

The state guarantees this right through the advanced educational system and national education policy of the state.

Article 74. Citizens have freedom of scientific, literary, and artistic activities.

The state grants benefits to inventors and innovators. Copyright and patent rights are protected by law.

Article 75. Revolutionary fighters, families of revolutionary and patriotic martyrs, dependents of People's Army personnel, and disabled veterans enjoy the special protection of state and society.

Article 76. Women are accorded equal social status and rights as men.

The state provides special protection to mothers and children through maternity leave, shortened working hours for mothers of large families, increasing the network of maternity hospitals, preschools, and kindergartens, and other measures.

The state creates various conditions for the advancement of women in society.

Article 77. Marriage and the family are protected by the state.

The state pays great consideration to preserving the family, the most basic and underlying unit of society.

Article 78. Citizens are guaranteed the inviolability of the person and the home, as well as privacy of correspondence.

Citizens cannot be detained or placed under arrest and the home cannot be searched without any legal basis.

Article 79. The Democratic People's Republic of Korea protects citizens from other countries who have sought asylum after fighting for peace and democracy, national independence and socialism, or for the freedom of scientific and cultural pursuits.

Article 80. Citizens must defend political-ideological unity and cohesion.

Article 81. Citizens must obey the laws of the state and the socialist norms of life and must guard the honor and dignity of being a citizen of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Article 82. Collectivism is the basis of social living within socialism.

Citizens must cherish their organization and collective and must demonstrate a character of devoting themselves to society and the populace.

Article 83. Work is the sacred duty and honor of the people.

Citizens must voluntarily and honestly participate in work and strictly observe labor discipline and working hours.

Article 84. Citizens must take good care of state and communal property, combat all forms of misappropriation and waste, and run the nation's economy assiduously as befitting a master.

Article 85. Citizens must always raise their revolutionary vigilance and must struggle with all their efforts for the security of the state.

Article 86. National defense is a supreme duty and honor for citizens.

Citizens must defend the fatherland and serve in the military as stipulated by law.

Treason against the fatherland and its people is the most heinous of crimes, and those who betray the fatherland and its people will be punished severely in accordance with the law.

Chapter 6. State Institutions

Section 1. The Supreme People's Assembly

Article 87. The Supreme People's Assembly is the highest organ of power in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The permanent body when the Supreme People's Assembly is not in session is the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly.

Article 88. Legislative power is exercised by the Supreme People's Assembly and the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly.

Article 89. The Supreme People's Assembly is composed of deputies elected on the principle of universal, equal, and direct suffrage by secret ballot.

Article 90. The term of office for the Supreme People's Assembly is five years.

Elections for the new Supreme People's Assembly are held in accordance with a decision of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly prior to the expiration of the term of the current Supreme People's Assembly.

Article 91. The Supreme People's Assembly has the authority to:

1. Amend the constitution.
2. Enact or amend law and ordinances.
3. Approve laws adopted by the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly while the Supreme People's Assembly is not in session.
4. Establish the basic principles of domestic and foreign policies of the state.
5. Elect or recall the president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.
6. Elect or recall the vice president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on the recommendation of the president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.
7. Elect or recall the chairman of the National Defense Commission of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on the recommendation of the president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.
8. Elect or recall the first vice chairman, the vice chairman, and members of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea's National Defense Commission on the recommendation of the chairman of the National Defense Commission.
9. Elect or recall the secretary and members of the Central People's Committee.
10. Elect or recall the secretary and members of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly.
11. Elect or recall the committee chairmen, vice chairmen, and members of the specialized committees within the Supreme People's Assembly.
12. Elect or recall the president of the central court.
13. Appoint or remove the Procurator-General of the Central Prosecutor's Office.
14. Elect or recall the premier of the State Administration Council on the recommendation of the president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.
15. Appoint the vice premier, committee chairmen, vice chairmen, and other members of the State Administrative Council on the recommendation of the premier of the State Administrative Council.
16. Approve the state plan for the development of the national economy and deliberate and approve reports on its implementation.

17. Approve the state budget and deliberate and approve reports on its implementation.
18. As necessary, receive project reports from the central state organs organized by the Supreme People's Assembly and establish countermeasures.
19. Decide whether to ratify or abrogate treaties presented to the Supreme People's Assembly.
20. Decide on questions concerning war and peace.

Article 92. The Supreme People's Assembly holds regular and extraordinary sessions.

The regular session is convened one or two times a year by the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly.

Extraordinary sessions are convened when the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly deems necessary, or at the request of over one-third of the total number of deputies.

Article 93. The Supreme People's Assembly needs more than two-thirds the total number of delegates to meet.

Article 94. The Supreme People's Assembly elects both its chairman and vice chairmen.

The chairman presides over the session, and also represents the Supreme People's Assembly in international relations.

Article 95. Items to be discussed at the assembly are those submitted by the president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the National Defense Commission of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly, the Central People's Committee, the State Administrative Council, and the committees of the Supreme People's Assembly.

Deputies may also present items.

Article 96. The first session of the Supreme People's Assembly elects a Credentials Committee and based upon the report submitted by that committee, adopts a decision confirming the credentials of the deputies.

Article 97. The Supreme People's Assembly makes laws, ordinances, and decisions. Laws, ordinances, and decisions of the Supreme People's Assembly are adopted when over half of the deputies present give approval through a show of hands.

Article 98. The Supreme People's Assembly establishes necessary committees such as a Legislative Committee, Budget Committee, Foreign Affairs Committee, and a Unification Policy Committee.

Committees of the Supreme People's Assembly consist of chairmen, vice chairmen, and committee members.

Committees of the Supreme People's Assembly assist in the work of the Supreme People's Assembly by either drafting or deliberating policy and laws of the State and establishing measures for their implementation.

Committees of the Supreme People's Assembly operate under the guidance of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly when the Supreme People's Assembly is not in session.

Article 99. Deputies to the Supreme People's Assembly are guaranteed inviolability as such.

No deputy to the Supreme People's Assembly can be arrested without the consent of the Supreme People's Assembly or, when it is not in session, without the consent of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly.

Article 100. The Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly consists of the chairman, vice chairmen, secretary, and members.

The chairman and vice chairmen of the Supreme People's Assembly serve concurrently as the chairman and vice chairmen of its Standing Committee.

The term of office for the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly is similar to that of the Supreme People's Assembly.

Article 101. The Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly has the following duties and authorities:
1. Examine and adopt bills and amendments to existing laws and ordinances that are presented when the Supreme People's Assembly is not in session, obtaining approval for these bills and amendments at the following Supreme People's Assembly.
2. In cases where new laws or amendments to existing laws are adopted, abolishes laws that may conflict with these.
3. Interpret current laws and ordinances.
4. Convene the session of the Supreme People's Assembly.
5. Conduct the election of deputies to the Supreme People's Assembly.
6. Work with the deputies to the Supreme People's Assembly.
7. Work with the Committees of the Supreme People's Assembly.
8. Organize the elections of deputies to the local people's assemblies.
9. Elect or recall the judges and people's assessors of the Central Court.
10. Conducts external work, to include work with Assemblies from other nations and with international parliamentary organizations.

Article 102. The Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly adopts decisions and issues directives.

Article 103. The Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly continues to carry out its mission until a new Standing Committee has been elected even when the term of the Supreme People's Assembly has expired.

Article 104. The Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly is accountable to the Supreme People's Assembly for its activities.

Section 2. The President of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

Article 105. The president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is the head of state and represents the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Article 106. The term of the president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is the same as that of the Supreme People's Assembly.

Article 107. The president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has the following duties and authorities:

1. Guide the Central People's Committee in its work.
2. Convene and guide the State Administrative Council as necessary.
3. Promulgate the laws and ordinances of the Supreme People's Assembly, the decisions of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly, and important laws, ordinances, and decisions of the Central People's Committee.
4. Exercise the right of granting special pardon.
5. Promulgate the ratification or abrogation of treaties made with other countries.
6. Announce the appointment or recall of diplomatic representatives stationed in other countries.
7. Receive the letters of credence and recall of envoys from other countries.

Article 108. The president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea issues orders.

Article 109. The president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is accountable to the Supreme People's Assembly for his activities.

Article 110. The vice presidents of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea assist the president in his work.

Section 3 The DPRK National Defense Committee

Article 111. The DPRK National Defense Committee is the supreme military guidance organ of the DPRK sovereign power.

Article 112. The DPRK National Defense Committee is composed of the chairman, first vice chairmen, vice chairmen, and members.

The National Defense Committee's term is the same as that of the Supreme People's Assembly.

Article 113. The chairman of the DPRK National Defense Committee commands and controls all the Armed Forces.

Article 114. The DPRK National Defense Committee has the following duties and rights:

1. Guide all Armed Forces of the state and Army building work.
2. Appoint and dismiss major military cadres.
3. Enact military titles and give military titles to military officials above the rank of general.
4. Declare a state of war and issue mobilization orders in an emergency.

Article 115. The DPRK National Defense Committee issues decisions and orders.

Article 116. The DPRK National Defense Committee takes responsibility for their work before the Supreme People's Assembly.

Section 4 The Central People's Committee

Article 117. The Central People's Committee is the DPRK president's supreme guiding organ.

Article 118. The head of the Central People's Committee is the DPRK president.

Article 119. The Central People's Committee is composed of the DPRK president, vice presidents, Central People's Committee secretary, and members.

The term of the Central People's Committee is the same as that of the Supreme People's Assembly.

Article 120. The Central People's Committee has the following duties and rights:

1. Map out state policies and devise measures to implement them.
2. Guide the work of the Administration Council, regional people's assemblies, and people's committees.
3. Guide the work of judiciary and prosecution institutions.
4. Guide state institutions' observance and application of laws and handles problems in executing laws.
5. Supervise the execution of the Constitution, decrees and decisions of the Supreme People's Assembly, decisions and instructions of the Supreme People's Assembly Standing Committee, orders of the DPRK president, and decrees, decisions, and instructions of the Central People's Committee; suspend the execution of regional people's committee decisions that contradict the aforementioned Constitution, decrees, decisions, and instructions; and abolish decisions and instructions of state institutions.
6. Establish or abolish committees and ministries of the Administration Council which are administrative executive institutions for different fields.
7. Appoint or dismiss vice premiers, committee chairmen, ministers, and other Administration Council members on the recommendation of the premier of the Administration Council when the Supreme People's Assembly is in recess.
8. Appoint or dismiss members of various committees under the Central People's Committee.
9. Ratify or abolish treaties signed with foreign countries.

10. Decide to appoint or recall diplomacy representatives based in foreign countries.
11. Institute orders and medals, titles of honor, and diplomatic positions and award orders, medals, and titles of honor.
12. Exercise the right to grant clemency.
13. Newly establish or change administrative districts.

Article 121. The Central People's Committee issues decrees, decisions, and instructions.

Article 122. The Central People's Committee can have under it necessary committees that help its work.

Article 123. The Central People's Committee takes responsibility for its work before the Supreme People's Assembly.

Section 5. The Administration Council

Article 124. The Administration Council is the supreme sovereign power's administrative executive organ.

The Administration Council works under the guidance of the DPRK president and the Central People's Committee.

Article 125. The Administration Council is composed of the premier, vice premiers, committee chairmen, ministers, and other necessary members.

The term of the Administration Council is the same as that of the Supreme People's Assembly.

Article 126. The State Administrative Council has the following duties and authorities:
1. Direct the work of each committee, ministry, organization directly subordinate to the State Administrative Council, and local administrative and economic committee.
2. Establish or abolish organs directly under its authority.
3. Draft the state plan for the development of the national economy and adopt measures to put it into effect.
4. Compile the state budget and adopt measures to implement it.
5. Organize and carry out work in industry, agriculture, construction, transport, communications, commerce, trade, land management, city management, education, science, culture, health, environmental protection, tourism and other various fields.
6. Adopt measures to strengthen the monetary and banking system.
7. Conclude treaties with foreign countries and conduct external affairs.
8. Adopt measures to maintain social order, to protect the property and interests of the state and cooperative organizations, and to safeguard the rights of citizens.
9. Annul the decisions and directives of administrative and economic organs that run counter to the decisions and directives of the State Administrative Council.

Article 127. The State Administrative Council convenes both a plenary meeting and a permanent commission.

Article 128. The plenary meeting of the State Administrative Council discusses and decides on new and important problems arising in the state administration.

The permanent commission of the State Administrative Council discusses and decides on matters entrusted to it by the plenary meeting of the State Administrative Council.

Article 129. The State Administrative Council adopts decisions and issues directives.

Article 130. The State Administrative Council is accountable for its activities to the Supreme People's Assembly, the president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and the Central People's Committee.

Article 131. The newly elected premier of the State Administrative Council, representing the members of the State Administrative Council, takes his oath before the president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea at the Supreme People's Assembly.

Article 132. State Administrative Council committees and ministries are departmental executive bodies of the State Administrative Council. State Administrative Council committees and ministries issue directives.

Section 6. Local People's Assemblies and People's Committees

Article 133. The People's Assembly at the province (or directly administrated city), city (or district) and county is the local organ of power.

Article 134. The local People's Assembly consists of deputies elected on the principle of universal, equal, and direct suffrage by secret ballot.

Article 135. The term of office for local People's Assemblies at the provincial (or directly administered city), city (or district), or county level is four years.

Article 136. The local People's Assembly has the following duties and authorities:
1. Deliberate and approve the local plan for the development of the national economy and report on its implementation.
2. Deliberate and approve the local budget and report on its implementation.
3. Develop measures by which to enforce the laws of the state within the the assembly's area if jurisdiction.
4. Elect or recall the chairman, vice chairmen, secretary, and members of the corresponding People's Assembly.
5. Elect or recall the chairman of the corresponding administrative and economic committee.
6. Appoint or dismiss the vice chairmen, secretary, and members of the corresponding administrative and economic committee.

7. Elect or recall the judges and people's assessors of the corresponding-level court.

8. Annul inappropriate decisions and directives of the People's Committee at the corresponding level and of the People's Assemblies and People's Committees at lower levels.

Article 137. The local People's Assembly convenes regular and extraordinary sessions.

The regular session is convened once or twice a year by the People's Committee at the corresponding level.

The extraordinary session is convened when the People's Committee at the corresponding level deems it necessary or at the request of a minimum of one-third the total number of deputies.

Article 138. Two-thirds or more of the total deputies must be in attendance for the People's Assembly to be held.

Article 139. The local People's Assembly elects its chairman. The chairman presides over the session.

Article 140. The local People's Assembly adopts decisions. Decisions of the local People's Assembly are announced by the corresponding People's Committee.

Article 141. The People's Committee of the province (or directly administered city), city (or district) or county is the local organ of power when the corresponding People's Assembly is out of session.

Article 142. The local People's Committee consists of the chairman, vice chairmen, secretary, and members.

Article 143. The local People's Committee has the following duties and authorities:

1. Convene the session of the People's Assembly.

2. Organize work for the election of deputies to the People's Assembly.

3. Work with the deputies of the People's Assembly.

4. Adopt measures to implement the decisions of the corresponding People's Assembly and higher-level People's Assemblies and People's Committees.

5. Direct the work of corresponding administrative and economic committees.

6. Direct the work of the People's Committees at lower levels.

7. Direct the work of organs, enterprises, and organizations within their corresponding area.

8. Annul inappropriate decisions and directives of corresponding administrative and economic committee and lower-level People's Assemblies and administrative and economic committees; suspends the implementation of inappropriate decisions of lower-level People's Assemblies.

9. Appoint or dismiss the chairman, vice chairmen, secretary, and members of the administrative and economic committee when the People's Assembly is not in session.

Article 144. The local People's Committee adopts decisions and issues directives.

Article 145. The local People's Committee continues to conduct its own duties even after the term of the corresponding People's Assembly has expired until a new People's Assembly is elected.

Article 146. The local People's Committee receives guidance from and is accountable for its activities to the corresponding People's Assembly as well as higher-level People's Assemblies and People's Committees.

Section 7. Local Administrative and Economic Committees

Article 147. The local administrative and economic committee of the province (or directly administered city), city (or district) and county is the administrative and executive body of the local organ of state power.

Article 148. The local administrative and economic committee consists of the chairman, vice chairmen, secretary, and members.

The term of office for the local administrative and economic committee is similar to that of the corresponding People's Assembly.

Article 149. The local administrative and economic committee has the following duties and authorities:

1. Organize and carry out all administrative and economic work within its given area.

2. Carry out the decisions and directives of the corresponding People's Assembly and People's Committee, as well as those of higher-level People's Assemblies, People's Committees, and administrative and economic committees.

3. Draft the local plan for the development of the national economy and establish measures to implement it.

4. Compile the local budget and establish measures for its implementation.

5. Establish measures to maintain social order, to protect the property and interests of the state and cooperative organizations, and to safeguard the rights of the citizens in its given area.

6. Guide the work of the local administrative and economic committees at lower levels.

7. Annul inappropriate decisions and directives of the local administrative and economic committees at lower levels.

Article 150. The local Administrative and Economic Committee adopts decisions and issues directives.

Article 151. The local Administrative and Economic Committee is subordinate to higher Administrative and Economic Committees and the State Administrative Council.

Section 8. The Court and the Procurator's Office

Article 152. Justice is administered by the Central Court, the Court of the province (or directly administered city), the People's Court, and the Special Court.

Article 153. The term of office for the chairman of the Central Court is the same as the term for the Supreme People's Assembly.

Article 154. The chairman and judges of the Special Court are appointed or dismissed by the Central Court.

The People's Assessors of the Special Court are elected by the corresponding Servicemen and Employees Meetings.

Article 155. The Court performs the following duties:

1. Protect the sovereignty and socialist system of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the assets of the State and social cooperative organizations, and the constitutional rights, life and property of the citizens through judicial activities.
2. Ensure that all institutions, enterprises, organizations, and citizens strictly observe the laws of the state, opposing and actively struggling against all class enemies and law-breakers.
3. Render judgements and findings with regard to property and conduct notarial work.

Article 156. Justice is administered by courts consisting of one judge and two people's assessors. In special cases there may be three judges.

Article 157. Court cases are conducted publicly, and the accused is guaranteed the right of defense.

Hearings may be closed to the public as stipulated by law.

Article 158. Judicial proceedings are conducted in the Korean language.

Foreigners may use their own languages during court proceedings.

Article 159. In administering justice, the Court is independent, and judicial proceedings are carried out in accordance with the law.

Article 160. The Central Court is the highest judicial organ of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The Central Court supervises the judicial activities of all courts.

The Central Court receives guidance from the Central People's Committee.

Article 161. The Central Court is accountable for its activities to the Supreme People's Assembly, the president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and the Central People's Committee.

Provincial (or directly administered city) Courts and the People's Court are accountable for their activities to the appropriate People's Assembly.

Article 162. Investigation and prosecution are conducted by the Central Procurator's Office, the Procurator's Offices of the province (or directly administered city), city (or district) and county, and the Special Procurator's Office.

Article 163. The term of the Procurator-General of the Central Prosecutor's Office is the same as that of the Supreme People's Assembly.

Article 164. Procurators are appointed or removed by the Central Procurator's Office.

Article 165. The Procurator's Office exercises the following duties:

1. Ensure the strict observance of state laws by institutions, enterprises, organizations, and citizens.
2. Ensure that decisions and directives of state organs do not contravene: the Constitution; the laws and ordinances of the Supreme People's Assembly; the decisions and directives of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly; the edicts of the president of Democratic People's Republic of Korea; the decisions and edicts of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea National Defense Commission; the decrees, decisions, and directives of the Central People's Committee; and the decisions and directives of the State Administrative Council.
3. Defend the sovereignty and socialist system of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the assets of the state and social collective organizations, and the constitutional rights, life, and property of the people by exposing offenders of the law to include criminals and make them legally accountable for their actions.

Article 166. Investigation and prosecution are conducted under the coordinated leadership of the Central Procurator's Office. All procurator's offices are subordinated to their higher procurator's office and to the Central Procurator's Office.

The Central Procurator's Office receives guidance from the Central People's Committee.

Article 167. The Central Procurator's Office is accountable for its activities to the Supreme People's Assembly, the president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and the Central People's Committee.

Chapter 7. National Emblem, Flag, and Capital

Article 168. The national emblem of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has the design of a grand hydroelectric power plant under the sacred mountain of the revolution, Mt. Paektu, and a brightly beaming light of a five-pointed red star, ovally framed with ears of rice bound with a red band bearing the inscription "The Democratic People's Republic of Korea."

Article 169. The national flag of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has a wide red panel across the middle of the banner, bordered above and below in sequence by a thin white stripe and thick blue stripe. On the red panel near the staff is depicted a five-pointed red star within a white circle.

The ratio of width to length is 1:2.

Article 170. The state song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is the "aegukka" [national anthem].

Article 171. The capital of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is Pyongyang.

* Forecast for Korea in 21st Century

932C0039A Seoul CHUGAN CHOSON in Korean 22 Oct pp 30-36

[Five-part special feature: "Forecast of Korea's Self-Image in the 21st Century"]

[Text] [Introduction: CHUGAN CHOSON has prepared a two-part special feature on Korea in the 21st century in commemoration of the journal's 24th founding anniversary. In this feature an attempt is made to describe what the 21st century, only nine years away, will be like, and how Korea will change inside the world.

Contained in the "Forecast" by experts, which is printed below, are articles of six [as published] scholars in their 30's who are active in various fields of our society. Through the eyes of these emerging scholars, who are expected to play a leading role in our society in the early part of the 21st century, we will trace the road lying ahead for Korea.

The other part features a roundtable discussion by mid-ranking scholars in which the participants examine what we should do in preparation for the coming 21st century.]

Political Outlook

[Article by Choe Mun-song, lecturer at the Department of Government and Foreign Relations, Ehwa Women's University: "Neo-Conservatism Likely To Be the Mainstream Amid Utter Political Indifference"]

[Text] [Boxed item: Choe Mun-song, lecturer at the Department of Government and Foreign Relations, Ehwa Women's University. Born in 1959. Graduated from the Department of Political Science, Seoul National University, and the post graduate school of the same university. Doctorate in political science.]

To forecast Korean politics in the 21st century which is expected to be dominated by accidental happenings and unpredictable variables and in which the speed and scope of change will be enormous, we have to hazard our predictions under zero visibility. Nevertheless, inasmuch as we get an expected value on the future while examining the present, let us begin by diagnosing the current political reality. With the 21st century on the horizon, Korean politics, unable to get out of the rut of daily routine, has been stagnant, repeating slogans such as "Do away with the two Kims" and "Explore our national destiny" while putting off new decisions and search for a national management strategy aimed at making our country a leading player in the Northeast Asian arena.

Ordinary living things are destined to wither in the fall. On the contrary, shrimps grow in the fall by shedding their shells. If they fail to shed their shells, they die. The shedding season is the most dangerous time for shrimps because they fall easy prey to predators in this season. Korean politics, which has entered its middle age following the establishment of the ROK, has now seized an opportunity to leap forward, but, at the same time, it is in danger of degeneration. The present time is marked by danger amid prosperity with the sword of Damocles hanging over our heads.

These are currently visible or anticipated symptoms: the process of internationalization from above; the process of decentralization from below; the lost center of the class movement due to decomposition from the inside; the crisis facing trade unions and political parties over the objects of representation; and the state's inability to rule. We will have to meet our opportunity for becoming a leading player in the Northeast Asian arena with East-West reconciliation and the grand national union of North-South integration by breaking the barrier of conventions—the incompetent and corrupt parliamentary politics, an administration devoid of imagination, and the deep-rooted authoritarianism—the barrier that has hardened through repetition under the symptoms described above.

Let us begin by examining the contents of the changes.

First, internationalization from above will take the form of the establishment of a unified Korea and a fierce international rivalry for hegemony in Northeast Asia. The reunification of Korea will take the form of absorbing the North by the South after a long period of North-South coexistence following the death of Kim Il-song.

In Northeast Asia in the 21st century the tendency toward de-emphasizing nationalism will strengthen side by side with emphasis on the nationalist character as nations are obsessed with their state goals. As a result, the next century will be an era of anxiety and discord in which feuds and frictions will intensify. The ROK will concentrate on its Southern policy in competition with Japan. In particular, Japan's nationalistic and arbitrary exclusionist tendency and China's success in political reform and internal confusion will aggravate the weakness and instability of the ROK-U.S.-Japan triangle alliance based on conventional security preference.

Second, most of the centralized structures and process will collapse and be replaced by decentralization from below, characterized by de-emphasis on class distinctions, localization, decentralized government, and emphasis on localism. A shift will be made from the indirect exercise of power through the National Assembly and political parties to the direct exercise of power. In particular, under the circumstances in which the operation of direct democracy is made easier thanks to the development of information and communications, there will be no need for the type of devices for representing public opinion like contemporary political parties; and grass-roots democracy will grow rapidly. Money politics and the power of nomination as political muscle, along with class conflict between right and left, will recede, and the availability of diverse information networks and the possession of specialized knowledge will make all the difference in political contest. At the same time, points of political contest will shift from materialistic, acquisitive values to non-materialistic and non-acquisitive values.

Third, class movements, such as student, workers, and farmers movements, and mass movements on a national scale will markedly decelerate due to pluralism and self-regulation in the political world and disintegrate from within due to the acceleration of the women's movement and the advent of civil movements. Civil movements will serve as the engine for new democracy and spur collective egoism, a cause of a new social conflict.

In spite of this change the future of Korean politics will take the following shape:

First, the form of ruling structure will continue to be one of rivalry between centralized conservative elites. The ideological conflict between political forces will decrease and neo-conservatism or neo-liberalism will become the mainstream. The existing ruling forces will stress the need for making our country an absolutely strong state so that it can cope with the threats posed by the United States, Japan, Russia, and China in their attempt to seize an uncontested hegemony over the Korean peninsula under a new international order in Northeast Asia in the 21st century.

Second, there will emerge leaders who know how to adjust the short- and long-term state goals and individual and collective interests. Unless there emerge leaders who know how to adjust and control the excessive demand for equality and far-fetched expectations of the general public arising from their disorientation, the authoritarian structure will fall apart as authoritarianism collapses. In this event, it is possible, although it is very unlikely, to foresee the reappearance of an authoritarian regime and the staging of a slow-moving revolution. This can be forestalled by the emergence of a determined and decisive leadership of the vanguard type.

Third, the specialization in the social structure and the development of science and technology will add to the political indifference of the general public. Mechanical behavior focussed on the maximization of individual interests will be rampant among all generations, accelerating political indifference. In the 21st century in which the focus of our national policy will shift from export to technology, the general public will be reduced to a mass of thickheaded and foolish creatures under the autocracy, manipulated by expert knowledge, information, revolutionized science and technology, and gadgets and computers.

In 21st century Korea it will be possible to have a historic alternative, given the space between fortuity and reason. There will be freedom for politicians who agonize over their choice amid the political uncertainty and the murky political condition, as well as room for politics as a field of possibility. Inasmuch as governing means choosing the most appropriate action under a given condition, we need to foster the will and power of social imagination to build a new, alternative future through segregation from the unproductive past.

Economic Outlook

[Article by Paek Ki-ung, research fellow at the Korea Development Institute (KDI): "Korea Will Play a Leading Part in the Northeast Asian Economy, With an Advance Country-Type Industrial Structure in Place"]

[Text] [Boxed item: Paek Ung-ki, research fellow at the Korea Development Institute. Born in 1955. Graduated from the Department of Mathematics, Seoul National University; received a master's degree in economics; received a doctorate in economics from the University of Wisconsin in the United States; taught as an assistant professor at the University of Iowa, the United States]

In the early part of the 21th century, which is only nine years away, what place will the ROK economy take in the world economy? Considering the internal and external conditions which are rapidly changing each year, it is very difficult to make an forecast on this score. Below I will point out a few problems which our economy needs to resolve just before crossing the threshold into the 21st century and thus examine the status the Korean economy will have, on the assumption that these problems are resolved satisfactorily.

The United States and Europe had dominated the world economy until the 1970's, but beginning in the 70's, chronic social and economic problems, such as slowdown in growth and rising unemployment came to the fore due to the two oil shocks and accumulated structural problems, resulting in recession and the aggravation of the international trade atmosphere.

Beginning in the early part of the 1980's, the United States and other advanced European countries went ahead with revamping of their economic structures at home while seeking trade liberation abroad through reciprocity, in an effort to overcome the recession and reinvigorate their economies. Typical of this effort are the devaluation of the U.S. dollar in accordance with the

1985 "Plaza" accord; the decision to integrate the markets within the EC with the deadline set at 1986; and the U.S.-Canadian free trade agreement which went into effect in 1989.

As a result, the growth prospect for the advanced economies of the United States and Europe improved markedly. On the other hand, Japan attained an annual average economic growth rate of 4.2 percent in the 1980's, thereby surpassing the United States in the per capital GNP and beginning to play a leading role for the world economy.

Entering the 1990's, two distinctive phenomena emerged in the world economy, namely, the tendency toward the globalization or internationalization of enterprises and production on the one hand and the tendency toward regionalism on the other. Globalization spurred a strengthening of international competitiveness and the multinationalization of enterprises and an increase in direct foreign investments, whereas regionalism led to the formation of exclusionary economic blocs everywhere in the world, raising fears that regionalism would have a negative impact on the world economy.

In the world economic order up until the early part of the 21st century, globalization and regionalism will exist side by side, and regionalism will have a positive effect on the growth of the world economy by accelerating the process of economic restructuring in countries belonging to each bloc and thus promoting economies of scale.

The critical question is: Given these trends toward globalization and regionalism, how will Korea, which belongs to the Asian-Pacific economic zone, be able to strengthen its international competitiveness in the face of Japan's economic hegemonism?

One of the important means for strengthening international competitiveness is to establish economic ties with major countries and globalize our industrial and financial policies through a strategy for opening up.

To this end, joining the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) is an essential requirement, and our country will be able to get one step closer to joining the ranks of advanced countries through strengthened economic cooperation with them. Currently, there are some negative views against our joining the OECD. Because one of the major functions of the OECD is to promote mutual understanding through discussions of member nations' various economic policies, admission to the OECD will in the long run be more beneficial than harmful to the Korean economy.

If Korea fulfills all necessary structural requirements for becoming an advanced economy in the early part of the 21st country, its industrial structure will be much closer to the type of an advanced economy than it is now. The major factors responsible for our economic growth in the past 20 years have been the increased labor force and the increased output of the factors of production resulting from economies of scale, but progress in technology will be the prime mover of growth in the 21st century. By industry, labor-intensive industries such as textile, garment, and footwear, as well as agriculture, forestry, and fisheries, will be on the ebb, whereas general machine, transportation, electric and electronics, and service industries will become the mainstay. The composition of export goods will change rapidly in keeping with the industrial restructuring.

If our economy can adjust itself well with the process of opening up and globalization and succeeds in industrial restructuring, the per capita GNP in the first year of the 21st century will reach approximately $17,000, and an era of a $20,000 income will begin in the year 2003 or thereabouts.

Another problem we need to solve in the next 10 years is how to achieve national reunification, a cherished desire of our nation. As apparent from the recent case of German reunification, the reunification of Korea will raise many problems, however, such as how to bear the burden of the cost and how to narrow the economic gap between North and South. Judging from our potential, we will be able to solve all problems incident to reunification.

The sharing of the economic burden arising from reunification will in a short run operate as a factor obstructive to economic growth. But when the economies of the North and South become homogenized, the growth potential of the reunited country will increase significantly. Accordingly, a reunified Korea in the 21st century will play a leading part after Japan in the East Asian economic zone.

Technology, Science

[Article by Ham Chu-ho, assistant professor at the Department of Industrial Engineering, Seoul National University: "Creating Our Own Unique Technologies, Not Imitating or Treading in the Footsteps of Advanced Countries"]

[Text] [Boxed item; Ham Chu-ho, assistant professor at the Department of Industrial Engineering, Seoul National University. Born in 1960. Graduated from the Department of Industrial Engineering and the graduate school of Seoul National University. Graduated from the graduate school of the University of Michigan in the United States (where received a doctorate in industrial engineering). Research fellow at the Engineering Research Institute, Seoul National University.]

Recently, our society has been changing rapidly. With the demise of ideology and the establishment of technological hegemonism, countries in the world are now in the process of forming economic blocs hand in hand with former adversaries in order to protect their respective national interests.

This situation gives rise to the view that to counter technological aggression by foreign powers, our society needs to develop science and technology and that this is the only way of surviving. However, in the past we developed science and technology by treading the footsteps of advanced countries, repeating the same trial and error process. That is why we feel that the road ahead for us to enter the ranks of advanced countries is growing more and more rough and difficult.

There is also the argument that we will be able to rise to the level of an advanced country by finding our own direction in developing science and technology, instead of treading in the footsteps of advance countries, and this argument finds a favorable response among all strata of our society. I believe that the 21st century will see the emergence of our own science and technology that will enjoy recognition for its uniqueness based on our cultural tradition on the one hand, and on the other for its universal validity.

If so, what kind of science and technology is it that has universal validity while being recognized as being uniquely our own? Examples can easily be found in the science and technology of advanced countries. The Italian design industry has turned out products which enjoys a universal popularity on the basis of the cultural heritage of the Italian people and their creative initiative; the Japanese electronics industry dominates the world by turning out miniaturized high-performance products on the basis of the scrupulous and meticulous character of the Japanese people. The prominence of the German machine industry and the American software industry can be explained in a similar vein.

Our industry for its part should develop the kind of science and technology suitable to us in order to play important part in the world. If so, what kind of science and technology is suitable to us? Our nation has long been recognized as a people with an remarkable creativeness. Our people have the wisdom of seeing the world in its grand and broad perspective, without bothering about small details too much. There is something that our contemporary society suggests on the basis of this background.

In modern society human muscle power is replaced by automated equipment. Man is viewed as the thinking master that plans production and insures its efficiency rather than as a means of production that provides labor. Along with this trend, the world is faced with an information revolution. Information society increases the added value of industrial products by pooling and synthesizing human knowledge and dividing it according to its various use. Accordingly, the 21st century will see a rapid expansion of industrial scope resulting from the synthesis and maximum utilization of already developed technologies and also from the development of new technologies. This is to say that the 21st century will need the creative ingenuity of our people more than ever before.

Accordingly, our science and technology in the 21st century will develop into a new frontier by synthesizing information on world technology and creating something new on the basis of this synthesis. While keeping in step with this trend, our science and technology will review and analyze our cultural heritage, and on this basis create a domain that is uniquely its own. Our science and technology will take the lead in developing a new and advanced culture by scrutinizing all aspects of our traditional culture. For instance, the following will become the subjects of study: the traditional four-piece monastic percussion music which turns even foreigners on; the book rack in the Haein Temple, which has kept the Tripitaka Koreana intact, without even a single moth-eaten page; Ho Chun's Treasure Pharmacopeia of Eastern Medicine, which among others has succeeded in curing cancer, an incurable disease of our time; the theory of geomancy which helps us select an ideal spot for a building or a grave yard.

Such science and technology of ours will become an object of exchange recognized by advanced countries, and we will stand shoulder to shoulder with other advanced countries, exchanging our science and technology with them.

Outlook for Lifestyle

[Article by Yi Un-suk, permanent researcher at Hanbaek Research Foundation: "Working at Home Will Become Universal, and Videotex Service Will Be Put to Practical Use"]

[Text] [Boxed item: Yi Un-suk, permanent researcher at Hanbaek Research Foundation. Born in 1957. Graduated from the Department of Business Administration, Ehwa Women's University; received a master's degree at the graduate school of the same university. Chief editor of "FORUM," a magazine for future study.]

Many people have drawn blueprints of the 21st century in various aspects. But despite all these blueprints, it is impossible to draw a concrete picture of our actual lifestyle in the next century. Nevertheless, a look at our surroundings shows that we are in the middle of an age of electronics. The harbingers of the age of information scattered around us have now became part of our life, although we are still not aware of it. The satellite antennas installed outside each floor of the apartment complex, the electronic range sitting in the corner of our kitchen, the old computers sent to the warehouse for disposal, as well as the electronic game machines played by children—all these are part of the proof that we are in a new age.

When we put together our predictions and proposals, which are based on incomplete knowledge, like pieces of a jigsaw puzzle, what picture will emerge? One thing is clear, that is, that no picture that stresses uniformity will emerge, for this is an age of diversity.

First of all, with regard to the types of housing, there will be a trend toward standardization in the construction of detached single homes as well as apartments. When one places an order for the type of house he chooses with a housing factory, he will get the house built in 10 days after the order is placed. Sweden and Japan lead the world in this kind of prefabricated housing industry; and Canada and the United States have also jumped into the market. In our country prefabrication was first introduced in apartment construction in 1978, and nine enterprises now take part in completely or partially prefabricated housing construction.

The intelligent building system which is slowly appearing in the scene will be introduced in housing construction, and homes with high-tech functions will be built along with factory-built housing. In these high-tech homes, when somebody enters, the computer will switch on the lights in the rooms and adjust the room temperature; and the censors installed throughout the home will trigger the alarm not only against the intruder but also against a fire. In this case, a family member or any other person the computer recognizes will not be caught by the censor. All gadgets inside the home can be operated by a remote control at any spot of the house. The remote control on the bedside switches on the stereo system for a walk-up call, or turns on the air- conditioner, or switches on the coffee-maker 30 minutes before the walk-up time. A market for this type of home expected to be formed in the United States in the 1990's, but in our country we will be able to see a model house in the year 2001.

Our children will study in school and at home watching three-dimensional pictures on the monitor screen by using various computer-based study programs. Currently, in Japan one can take a cooking lesson by using an electronic cookbook. But, in Korea, only English teaching materials and Bible stories are published in the form of an electronic book. But about the year 2001, electronic books on mathematics and space science, as well as fables and stories of Korean history, will be published. When "reading" the book on the monitor screen with pictures depicting the customs of a particular age and other relevant pictures in the background, one will see particularly important terms highlighted in different colors and hear the voice making supplementary explanations.

It will take more time to make a direct conversation between the home and the school through the computers by using a device connected to the main computer in the school. There will be a continued demand for computer-based "home schools" as a cost-cutting measure as schools, beset by the ever decreasing number of students, try desperately to curb the decline in the number of student enrollments. Working at home will be popularized considerably, making a large number of people dreaming of having their own home offices, and pertinent enterprises will present various ideas and search actively through our PC communication columns.

While people, addicted to high-tech culture, enjoy lazar disc music on a large screen, some classic buffs will enjoy music on LP records, not even CD's. Popular music, composed and played by an electronic music computer program, will turn the youth on with space-travel sound in flashing fluorescent lights. But in primary schools, students will still learn "Spring of the Hometown."

With videotex service put in practical use in the year 2001, banking and shopping will be done by at home. Needless to say, domestic bookkeeping will be done by the personal computer. But to our regret, people except a minority group of those familiar with computer operation will assign these tasks to their children as a part-time job.

The numerous forecasters on the outlook for the future, immediate or distant, are unanimous in their conclusion: the future will take exactly the same shape that we design and that the picture of the future will be drawn in a mix of diversity. As is recognized by everyone, the driving force for the 21st century civilization is science and technology. If we are not interested in science and culture, we will be alienated from this civilization. Therefore, if we do not want alienation, we must open our eyes wide and watch new changes with attention.

Outlook for Education

[Article by Kim Chae-ung, director of research and coordination, the Korea Educational Development Institute: "An Era of Educational Presidents Will Come With All Applicants Admitted to College"]

[Text] [Boxed item: Kim Chae-ung, director of research and coordination, the Korea Development Institute. Born in 1958. Graduated from Seoul National University; received a doctorate in educational policy study from the University of Illinois, the United States.]

It is expected that in the 21st century we will move into an era of educational competition for ideas, information, and technology from that of trade competition. In his book titled *Powershift*, the American scholar of future studies Alvin Toffler said that information has become a determinant factor not only in gaining and maintaining power but also in the survival of enterprises, and that this tendency will intensify in the future.

In order for our nation to achieve universal prosperity and gain a foothold for playing a leading historic role in the world in the 21st century, all our state policies should be focused on education beginning even at this moment. The recent changes in the domestic and international scenes—such the unification of Germany, the disintegration of the Soviet communist party, the simultaneous UN admission of North and South Korea, and the conclusion of the inter-Korean agreement on exchanges and cooperation—presage the arrival of society with de-emphasis on ideology. Probably, this will enable us to reduce the defense outlays and shift the focus of our policies to education as the first priority.

To give the first priority to education, people in every sector of our society need to do their utmost for education in their respective fields before asking the educational sector to do something for them.

Let us consider the matter first from the political viewpoint. The way politics is conducted provides a potent course of education to students and the general public. In other words, by seeing politics in action, people come to the conclusion, consciously or unconsciously, that such is the way of politics or that it is OK to do such and such things in politics. In this sense, we need the maturing of democratic government more than anything else. Politics should bar all unnecessary interference with education and insure a professional and autonomous operation of education. From this point of view, a solution must be sought for the question of the National Teachers Union, which is no longer an educational issue but has become a political issue.

The sector that can contribute most directly to education is the economy. We need to make bold investments in education in view of the degree of contribution made by education to economic development in the past. We should increase the ratio of educational outlays to the GNP to 5 percent by the year 2000 to bring it up on a par with the ratio that prevailed in Japan and Britain in 1986. In the 1991 government budget, the expenditure for education accounts for 22.8 percent of the total expenditures, next only to the defense expenditure in size. The ratio of the expenditure for education to the GNP is only 3.3 percent, too small for the amount needed to improve education.

We must build the foundation for the development of education by establishing a wholesome educational culture under which people in our civic society prize education for its own merit.

We should move one step further and include the way education is being conducted in the indexes indicating the level of overall national development, along with the degree of economic development, the degree of political development, and the degree of cultural development.

For instance, the number of students per classroom, the number of students per teacher, the number of books per library, the plant space per student, the public expenditure for education per student, and so forth are already serving as the yardstick for measuring the level of national development. It may be said that graphically reflected in the way the students are receiving education is the attitude of the general public toward education. When a high-ranking Indonesian administrator of education recently visited the Korea Educational Development Institute, he made the humiliating comment on our crowded classrooms that the classrooms were like makeshift or emergency classrooms operating in wartime, adding that the size of classrooms in Indonesia, which falls behind the ROK in economic strength, ranges between 25 and 30 students per room.

Let us draw a picture of the changed school environment in the 21st century on the assumption that the education-first principle described above is adopted as our national policy.

First, the idea has become universal that the school is not only a place of learning and teaching but also a "living space" for the teachers and students to spend most of their time together. The number of students per school and the number of students per classroom are drastically reduced, and the school facilities are modernized at least at the same level with public offices. Second, assuming the current high school reorganization plan (for changing the ratio between the number of students in general high school and that in vocational high schools from 65:35 to 50:50) proves successful, nearly all applicants are admitted to various institutions of higher education by the year 2003 or thereabouts. This change eases the competition in college entrance examinations and de-emphasize education geared to college entrance examinations, thereby paving the way for enabling the students to receive a "meaningful education" according to their aptitude and ability. Third, universities are full of professors burning with passions for research and students with a fervent desire to learn, solidly playing their role as the engine for national development. Depending on fields of study, some universities become the world's foremost, attracting many foreign students. Education is a long-range undertaking. We hope that there will emerge an "educational president" who knows how to value education in earnest.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

UN Envoy on Call for UNSC To Intervene in Bosnia

BK1512061692 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0409 GMT 15 Dec 92

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Dec 15 (OANA/BERNAMA)—Malaysia and other Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) countries strongly feel military intervention is necessary to put an end to the Serbian aggression in Boznia-Hercegovina. Malaysian Permanent Representative to the United Nations Razali Ismail said the time had come for the UN Security Council to authorise the use of all means necessary to put an end to the atrocities.

It must accept the fact that military intervention was inevitable in the face of determined Serbian aggression, he added. If ever such intervention is justified, it is now, said Razali when he addressed the plenary of the 47th UN General Assembly in New York Monday. Razali also called for arming of the Bosnians, enforcement of the ban on military flights, bombing of Serbian military targets and forward locations and immediate establishment of safe havens. He said the Serbs had continuously reneged on their many pledges for a ceasefire, to turn over their heavy artillery and halt military flights over Bosnia-Hercegovina. He added: There is no doubt that the Security Council ban on Serbian military flights over Bosnia has been constantly violated by Serbia as there is no enforcement by the UN.

In fact, the functions of the UN personnel are reduced to only observing and counting the number of violations. Razali said the argument against military intervention on the ground that they would lead to greater conflagration was unacceptable and morally indefensible.

While Malaysia have supported all the efforts undertaken by the UN and European Community, the situation on the ground clearly calls for resolute and decisive action within the framework of collective security and responsibility, he added. He said it was clear that the Serbs were not satisfied with the more than 70 per cent of Bosnian territory they had seized, killed more than 128,000 Bosnians and displaced some 1.8 million or about 40 per cent of the population of Bosnia.

Razali also said Malaysia felt very strongly about the repeated appeals by the Bosnian president to allow his country to defend itself and, thus, Bosnia-Hercegovina should be exempted from the UN arms embargo.

Lifting the embargo is the only means to equalise, to some extent, the relative strength of the Bosnians and to compel aggressor forces to negotiate in good faith and abide by their commitments, he added. He said the UN should pay special attention to the rising tension in a number of areas with non-Serb majority within Serbia, in particular Kosovo, Vojvodina and Sanjak, as well as in Macedonia, because there were alarming prospects of force and violence being used by the Serbs there.

Minister Reminds Sihanouk of Peacekeeping Role

BK1512093592 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0644 GMT 15 Dec 92

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Dec 15 (OANA-BERNAMA)—The Supreme National Council (SNC) led by Prince Norodom Sihanouk has a role similar to that of the United Nations peacekeeping force in ensuring that peace is restored in Cambodia, Malaysian Foreign Minister Abdullah Badawi said Tuesday. In this respect, he said the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) needed the cooperation of the SNC.

The SNC is an important body more so at this time when Cambodia is placed under UNTAC, he told reporters when asked to comment on Sihanouk's threat to stop cooperating with the peacekeeping force which he claimed was incapable of stopping Khmer Rouge's violence.

In a statement from Beijing issued by the Phnom Penh Palace Monday, Prince Sihanouk blamed UNTAC and the Phnom Penh government for their failure or reluctance to restore peace and true democracy in Cambodia.

Abdullah said that in view of the serious nature of the statement, he had to get confirmation from the Malaysian Embassy in Phnom Penh before commenting on it further.

The peace process in Cambodia is being threatened by Khmer Rouge's refusal to lay down their arms as agreed to under the Paris peace accord and the situation could be worse if they ignore the election to be held in May next year. The Khmer Rouge is one of the four signatories to the Paris agreement with the other three factions led by Prince Sihanouk, Heng Samrin, and Son Sann.

Singapore

Minister: PAP Does Not Indulge in Politics

BK1412150092 Singapore Singapore Broadcasting Corporation in English 1100 GMT 14 Dec 92

[Summary from poor reception] The foreign minister, Mr. Wong Kan Seng, says the People's Action Party [PAP] does not indulge in party politicking. In this way, the cabinet and the PAP MP's [member's of parliament] can concentrate on formulating policies for the long-term interests of Singapore. Mr. Wong made this point at a PAP conference last night. In his speech, he said PAP cannot afford to have politicking and allow branches to steer party leaders and candidates for election. He said the committee has to carefully recruit candidates in time for elections so that succession is carefully planned.

Cambodia

Sihanouk Indicates Possible Return in Jan 1993

BK1212143892 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 12 Dec 92

["Message from His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk to His Beloved People"; dated 12 December—read by announcer]

[Text] Beijing, 12 December 1992.

Revered Buddhist monks and dear compatriots: Being away from all of you, I, Prince Father Norodom Sihanouk, always sincerely think of our sacred and beloved nation and country, both the supreme patriarchs, and all the Buddhist monks, brothers, sisters, children, and grandchildren. Although I am far away from you, I continue to protect your just cause and serve the supreme interest of our nation and motherland.

Thanks to the constant, skillful medical treatment and care provided by distinguished Chinese doctors, I have recovered, without undergoing any surgical operation, from the illness involving the inflamation of the glands in my throat that has menaced me since October 1992.

More than two weeks ago, I nearly went blind in my right eye; then my left eye became blurred. But luckily, after the doctors' intensive treatment and attention as well as a total rest in the Beijing hospital, my left eye has recovered 99 percent of its visual sharpness and my right eye 75 percent. It is imperative for me to avoid writing and reading otherwise my right eye will get worse quickly.

The problem with my eyes is also linked to other very serious health problems, especially the hardening and calcification at a high rate of the arteries around my heart and other blood vessels. And it was the blockage caused by my blood vessels that caused me to nearly go blind.

Moreover, my heart and lungs have also weakened and can no longer bear the heavy work load, including my state, political, and diplomatic duties in Cambodia. As for my liver, it is not good either because it is surrounded by a considerable amount of fat. My Chinese doctors told me that there is no other more effective medicine to prevent the serious cardiovascular crisis or paralysis for me than to have a total rest and to avoid excessive reading. I also need to be on a strict diet—I must eat foods without salt, sugar, or fat. I have been under regular medical checkups by the leading, talented, and meticulous Chinese doctors in Beijing.

I, the prince father, grandfather, and great grandfather, hope that in January 1993 I will be able to return to join you all in our Cambodian motherland. But the Chinese doctors have not yet decided whether I will be able to return then and again serve our country.

On the eve of the international New Year, I wish to extend the warmest greetings to all of you. May you enjoy prosperity and happiness as well as the five blessings of Lord Buddha.

[Signed] Norodom Sihanouk.

Chea Sim Attends Religious Ceremony for Sihanouk

BK1212090392 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 0430 GMT 12 Dec 92

[Report with portions recorded on religious ceremony in Phnom Penh]

[Summary] This morning, 12 December, at the Silver Monastery in Phnom Penh, the Cambodian People's Party [CPP] and the Government of the State of Cambodia [SOC], organized a religious ceremony to pray for the quick recovery of His Royal Highness [HRH] Prince Norodom Sihanouk, Cambodia's head of state, father of the Cambodian national reconciliation, and chairman of the Supreme National Council, who is ill in Beijing.

"At 0730, high-ranking leaders of the SOC, standing members and members of the CPP Central Committee arrived one after another with warm greetings from the multitude of the people present at the ceremony. On this occasion we noted the presence of Chea Sim, chairman of the CPP and chairman of both the National Assembly and the National Council of the Kampuchean United Front for National Construction and Defense; Chea Soth, standing member of the CPP Central Committee; Say Chhum, standing vice chairman of the Council of Ministers; General Tie Banh, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and defense minister; Prince Norodom Chakkrapong, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers; Kong Sam-ol, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister of the Council of Ministers' office; Mat Ly, vice chairman of the National Assembly and of the CPP Central Committee's Control Commission; Men Sam-an, chairman of the Cambodian Federation of Trade Unions; Nguon Nhel, agriculture minister; Gen. Sin Song, national security minister; Sim Ka, chairman of the Phnom Penh City party committee and the city people's committee; Gen. Pol Saroeun, deputy defense minister and chief of staff of the Cambodian People's Army [CPA]; Gen. Ke Kimyan, first deputy defense minister and chief of the CPA's General Political Department; ministers; deputy ministers; and many other high-ranking officials."

The announcer then describes proceedings of the ceremony with recorded portions by the master of ceremony asking souls of former kings for permission to repair and renovate structures in the monastery compound and praying for Sihanouk's speedy recovery. The recorded portion also contains chanting by Buddhist monks and an interview with an elderly lady.

"At 0930, the ceremony to convey merit to HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk was concluded in a happy atmosphere with most generous sentiments."

Sihanouk Statement Says Situation 'Very Bad'

BK1512055392 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 14 Dec 92

["Statement of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk"—read by announcer]

[Text] At the end of this year 1992, how has the situation in Cambodia developed in connection with Cambodia's territorial integrity, sovereignty, and economic independence? Concerning these issues, when I ruled the country, I arduously arranged, protected, and preserved them. How have they developed now?

The situation in my beloved motherland is now very bad. Cambodia is heading toward the dislocation, and eventually, the disappearance of a country, state, and nation.

1. The full territorial integrity that lasted until 1969 no longer exists. Some neighboring countries have redrawn territorial and maritime boundaries, built up gates, and dug new canals deep inside Cambodian territory—10 to 20 kilometers in some areas and even 30 kilometers in some places. Some neighboring countries have redrawn territorial and maritime boundaries both on the map and in the actual areas, illegally annexing hundreds of thousands of square kilometers of Cambodian territory. Some areas even include ancient temples. They have also nibbled islands. Along these new Cambodian borders that they have redrawn, Cambodia has shrunken [words indistinct] civilian and military flags of those (?countries).

Some of our provinces, districts, and villages have been occupied and exploited shamelessly by foreigners. Languages of those countries are imperiling the Khmer language. In some parts of Cambodia and on some islands, the Cambodians have already become ethnic minorities in their own country. The foreigners who have flown in from neighboring countries have established themselves as land owners.

2. The Cambodian national economy has lost all its independence and has nearly become a nonentity. Foreigners and foreign companies of some foreign superpowers have shamelessly devoted themselves to the intensive and extensive exploitation of Cambodia's natural resources. Through this exploitation, they are ruining beyond remedy these natural resources, especially forests, gems, fish and prawns in our Tonle Sap lake, rivers, streams, ponds, and seas. All forms of Cambodia's economy in the zones under the control of various large and small Cambodian parties have been totally ruined, causing Cambodia to completely lose the economic independence it had in the 1960's. This is [words indistinct] the arrangement of the so-called free democracy, liberal economic system, and free markets. Therefore, on the eve of 1993, our Cambodia is losing its soul, losing its independence, its sovereignty, its territorial integrity, and the economic independence it had in the 1960's.

I would like to launch an appeal to all factions, political parties, and all Cambodians, male and female, who have claimed to be patriotic to wake up, open their eyes, and look clearly at the deadly threat now facing our beloved and adored Cambodia.

History and the Cambodian children in the next generation will judge and strongly condemn anyone and everyone allowing foreigners to nibble our land, to occupy and control it, or to send their people into Cambodia to plunder our land, national resources, and even exterminate our race in some parts of our country.

Signed: Norodom Sihanouk
[Dated] 14 December 1992

KR Troops' Activities, Violations Reported

BK1512075192 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1200 GMT 14 Dec 92

[Text] Recently Khmer Rouge [KR] troops from Divisions 802 and 616 intensified their military activities in a number of areas in Kompong Thom Province, killing one and wounding four of our people; two bridges were blown up; and four persons were abducted. These Khmer Rouge activities have been reported as follows:

At about 2200 on 6 December, some 10 Khmer Rouge soldiers infiltrated into (Kou Krabei) and (Anlung Meas) villages, approximately 10 km east of Kompong Thom provincial town. According to the local people, these soldiers also warned people about registering for elections in May next year. They opened fire to intimidate them and robbed the people's property and money. After over an hour of this, the Khmer Rouge soldiers took away over 190,000 riel, two chi [weight unit equivalent to about 3.75 grams] of gold, and a tape recorder. Five rifles were confiscated from militiamen, including thee SK's and two AK's. Four villagers were abducted.

On 7 December, another group of Khmer Rouge soldiers from Division 616 infiltrated and operated in the areas under the control of the State of Cambodia at (Chisat) village in Chamna Kraom commune, Stoung District, on National Route 6. The troops numbered about 30. They savagely and brutally opened fire on people's houses when they attacked the village. In this violation, on person was killed and four others wounded; a buffalo was also killed. Upon their retreat, these soldiers blew up the 20-meter (Chisat) bridge.

The same sources also said that on 7 December, another group of about 20 Khmer Rouge soldiers from Division 616 blew up another 15-meter bridge on Route 12, the O Chreou bridge, in Chey village, Kompong Svay District.

These Khmer Rouge activities are open violations of the Paris agreement which will certainly compel the Cambodian People's Army to exercise their right to self-defense.

KAMPUCHEA Urges Execution of UN Sanctions

BK1012104492 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 9 Dec 92

[Commentary of the newspaper KAMPUCHEA: "Adopted Resolutions Will Only Be Valid and Effective If They Are Implemented"—date not given]

[Text] The resolutions adopted on 30 November by 14 states among the 15 UN Security Council member countries imposing economic sanctions on the Khmer Rouge faction by cutting oil supplies and banning the export of timber from the areas it controls are seen as appropriate pressure on the Khmer Rouge, which continues to adamantly defy the implementation of the peace accord despite various countries' efforts to coax them. These are the resolutions that the overwhelming majority of the public the world over and in Cambodia have been awaiting for months, especially after the Khmer Rouge faction sabotaged the meeting of the Supreme National Council [SNC] in Beijing on 8 November.

The punitive measures against the Khmer Rouge have already been approved. However, concern has surfaced because it is not yet certain whether the sanctions will be successfully enforced. This is because enforcement depends mainly on the support of Cambodia's neighbors, for instance, Thai permission to set up UN peacekeeping force checkpoints along their border with Cambodia.

Peace is invaluable. And peace in Cambodia is integral to peace in neighboring countries and for world peace as a whole. Since the aforementioned UN Security Council resolutions are aimed at restoring peace to the Cambodian people, it is therefore necessary that all countries involved in the Cambodian problem that have the goodwill to put an end to the conflict welcome and jointly enforce the resolutions with productive efficiency.

The enforcement is only a worry about the external aspect of the issue. In any case, another important concern is over the Khmer Rouge's concrete activities as the UN resolutions have been introduced a bit late. Over the past year, the Khmer Rouge faction actively shipped armaments, ammunition, and a great deal of equipment into the country in preparation for waging a war according to its strategy. As such, to make the sanctions on the Khmer Rouge successful and effective—together with support and cooperation from Cambodia's neighboring countries—UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] has to ensure the three principles, including avoiding the loss of balance of forces, protecting the parties cooperating with UNTAC from becoming victims, and enhancing the right to self-defense.

The resolutions can only be valid and effective if they are fully implemented.

Khmer Rouge Deny Plan To Stage Demonstration

BK1212013392 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 11 Dec 92

["Denial of the Party of Democratic Kampuchea, PDK, spokesman concerning rumors that PDK forces are planning a demonstration soon in front of the royal palace in Phnom Penh;" dated 11 December—read by announcer]

[Text] 1. Recent false information was disseminated saying that forces of the Party of Democratic Kampuchea [PDK] are planning a demonstration soon in front of the royal palace in Phnom Penh.

2. Concerning this news, the PDK spokesman vehemently denies it because it is a gross lie used as a pretext to attack Democratic Kampuchea.

3. In fact the Vietnamese aggressors and the Phnom Penh puppets are creating confusion and constant insecurity in Phnom Penh, the provinces, and rural areas.

4. People clearly see that at present it is the Vietnamese aggressors and their puppets who are attacking the resistance forces and the Cambodian people. This group still controls the five ministries; UNTAC [United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia] cannot do anything. Those in charge of the five ministries are accomplices of this group in Phnom Penh and in rural areas. Phnom Penh is the den of the Vietnamese aggressors and their puppets.

5. The people have clearly seen the hideous faces of the Vietnamese and their puppets and further realize that the latter are the ones tearing up the Paris agreement and striving to implement a modified agreement in order to have only one party, namely that of Vietnam's puppets, in Phnom Penh.

As for events taking place in Phnom Penh, they are caused by UNTAC not correctly implementing the Paris agreement, namely:

A. UNTAC has not given a role to the Supreme National Council [SNC] to enable it to carry out its task as a legitimate and sole source of power in Cambodia during the transitional period;

B. UNTAC has not verified that all Vietnamese aggressor forces have withdrawn from Cambodia;

C. Vietnamese aggressor forces are still everywhere in Cambodia. Old Vietnamese aggressor forces remain and new ones are succesively flowing into the country.

Therefore, the incidents taking place are within the framework of the Phnom Penh puppet regime and in a situation in which Vietnamese aggressor forces are everywhere in Cambodia, and UNTAC is not checking the Vietnamese aggressors but instead colluding with them and the Phnom Penh puppets, who are everywhere in Cambodia, particularly in Phnom Penh.

[Dated] 11 December 1992
[Signed] PDK spokesman

SRV Strategy To Prop Up Phnom Penh Detailed

BK1212060192 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 11 Dec 92

["Report on the activities of the Hanoi Vietnamese To Summon Vietnam's Puppet Leaders in Phnom Penh to Ho Chi Minh City at the end of November To Successively Receive New Vietnamese Plans"]

[Text] According to reports from Phnom Penh and various foreign sources, toward the end of November 1992 Vietnamese leaders in Hanoi summoned Vietnam's puppet leaders in Phnom Penh to see the Vietnamese in Ho Chi Minh City in order for the latter to order the puppet leaders to implement new plans of Vietnam and its allies in and outside UNTAC starting from December 1992 until the beginning of 1993.

The sources also say that Vietnamese leaders from Hanoi were staying in Ho Chi Minh City and summoned Vietnam's puppet leaders in Phnom Penh to go there to receive Vietnam's orders on the following major issues:

1. Vietnam has clearly told the Phnom Penh puppet leaders that the strategic and tactical plan of Vietnam and its allies in and outside UNTAC to oppose the 23 October 1991 Paris agreement failed over the past year.

2. Under this situation, difficulties and complexities have arisen for Vietnamese in Cambodia, particularly for Vietnam's puppets. There will be difficulties in rural areas, cities, and abroad; in the political, diplomatic, economic, and financial sectors; and unrest among soldiers and people. This difficult situation is spreading and becoming deeper and deeper. Vietnam has stressed to the puppets that this is the difficulty Vietnam and its allies in and outside UNTAC have clearly seen. New measures should be taken for the end of 1992 and the beginning of 1993.

Vietnamese leaders have also told the puppet leaders that Vietnam and its allies in and outside UNTAC have adopted new measures and maneuvers for Vietnam and its puppets to appropriately play onstage:

A. Vietnam has put forward a plan of its allies in and outside UNTAC for Vietnam to bring in additional weapons and ammunition from Vietnam to Cambodia for launching offensives against the resistance forces and the Cambodian people in the 1993 dry season.

B. Vietnam has plans to organize soldiers and police, all of them hitmen of the puppets with Vietnamese acting as the core in the guise of common people, to threaten, intimidate, and/or attack various political groupings and parties which Vietnam and the puppets think they cannot persuade, threaten, or intimidate and who still carry out activities in accordance with the Paris agreement against the Vietnamese aggressors.

C. Vietnam and its allies in and outside UNTAC are agreeable to the dispatch of Vietnamese in the guise of civilians to Cambodia and use this to prevent UNTAC from having a pretext to check this Vietnamese civilian force.

The fact is that among these Vietnamese civilians there are military and political cadres and cadres from various sectors of state authority, such as chief of the police and other assorted networks, to administer Vietnamese forces in Cambodia, both old forces and the newly dispatched ones.

D. These various categories of Vietnamese forces are in the form of civilians holding Cambodian identity cards, whether or not they can speak the Cambodian language. These Vietnamese, holders of Cambodian identity cards, will be organized to register for elections in 1993.

E. Vietnam and its allies in and outside UNTAC have set up a major plan to establish Cambodian leadership machinery to replace that in Vietnam's current puppet government. This is merely plastic surgery on Vietnam's so-called Government of the State of Cambodia.

Vietnam has made efforts to explain to the puppet leaders to get them to accept this reasoning, saying we should dare to play new cards: a number of genuine Vietnamese puppets installed since 1979 will be reduced in form but the essence remains the same. At the same time, the names of His Royal Highness [HRH] Norodom Sihanouk, Prince Norodom Ranariddh, and Son Sann should be paraded on the stage of Vietnam's SOC [State of Cambodia] regime. This in order, on the one hand, to prevent Vietnam's current puppet regime from crumbling ahead of time because the regime is now gasping for air. New cards and horses should be presented on the stage in order to dupe international opinion, ask for aid from here and there, and win and rally some international support to maintain Vietnam's SOC regime.

In this mission, Vietnam has advised Vietnam's puppet leaders to play their roles well in this theatrical piece in accordance with the plans. In this play, Vietnam has maneuvered to get puppet Chea Sim to play a leading role in establishing relations with HRH Sihanouk, Prince Norodom Ranariddh, and His Excellency Son Sann, and even with Thailand and China.

3. The sources say that all these strategic and tactical plans and maneuvers are called new, but in fact are the same old strategic and tactical plans and maneuvers. Vietnam has vainly been trying to carry them out for years.

Now there is a new problem, that of organizing a new leadership team through new cadres and new horses within Vietnam's SOC regime. Vietnam and its allies in and outside UNTAC use these words: Use these new cards to play in the SOC regime.

However, general opinion knows that the situation is increasingly difficult, complicated, and getting deeper.

This will lead to the eventual crumbling of Vietnam's SOC regime. Under such a situation, no new cadres or horses can be found to replace, assist, and restore it. As a Cambodian proverb says: No one is willing to carry tumbling rocks.

Phnom Penh Leaders Said Hiding in SRV Custody

BK1212043492 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 11 Dec 92

[From the "News in Brief" feature]

[Excerpt] Reliable sources in Phnom Penh say that puppet leaders in Phnom Penh, traitors to the nation, are afraid of being eliminated by the people and have fled to sleep in the houses of Vietnamese leaders in Phnom Penh.

Hun Sen, Heng Samrin, Chea Sim, Tie Banh, Hor Namhong, and a handful of others, traitors to the nation and Vietnam's lackeys, know that the people in Phnom Penh, like those throughout the country, are currently up to their necks in anger with these puppet leaders and traitors to the nation. Opportunities are being sought to eliminate these puppets commensurate with their role as traitors who have sold out the nation and territory to Vietnam. The people agree that this great crime of selling off the nation and land should be punished by death. [passage omitted]

Akashi Criticized Over 8 Dec SNC Meeting

BK1412091092 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 11 Dec 92

["Remarks on the Supreme National Council meeting on 8 December 1992"]

[Text] At the meeting of the Supreme National Council [SNC] on 8 December, the following was observed:

1. The level of the political meeting of the SNC, UNTAC [United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia], and various countries, was downgraded into a working meeting. Thus, the role of the meeting was not that of a political organization but of a technical body. Previous meetings had the character of a political meeting but nothing was solved; a technical meeting would achieve even less.

2. The number of persons taking part in the meeting was less than previously.

A. His Royal Highness [HRH] Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and SNC chairman, was ill and did not chair this meeting;

B. Khieu Samphan, chairman of the Party of Democratic Kampuchea [PDK] and SNC member, also did not attend but wrote a letter to Akashi clearly expressing the stance of the PDK;

C. Prince Norodom Ranariddh, chairman of FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] Party, also did not attend; however, his low-ranking representative also clearly specified the FUNCINPEC stance;

D. The Phnom Penh group also did not attend; only low-level representatives were present.

With no one attending the meeting, the situation was quiet. Akashi was disappointed and greatly worried.

3. Previously, Akashi was free to do and decide everything at will above others' heads with no consideration whatsoever for the Paris agreement and the SNC.

At this meeting, when no one was attending, Akashi was at a loss; he was disappointed and also worried. He did not know what issue to raise for discussion because there was nobody to say yes here and yes there, or anybody to remain silent when Akashi expressed his views. So this time around Akashi starred alone.

4. At this meeting, Akashi was the accused in Khieu Samphan's message. The address of His Excellency Son Sann also accused Akashi and UNTAC; so did the document of the FUNCNPEC party.

In essence these accusations are serious and clear:

A. Akashi has set aside major significant points such as the verification of foreign troop withdrawal from Cambodia and the SNC role; these are essential points for solving the problem at its root cause. Akashi has not raised these points, as though they have already been resolved;

B. The SNC has no role whatsoever;

C. Akashi still left the five ministries, particularly the police, under the control of Vietnam and puppets who have bred a situation of insecurity and constant assassination.

D. UNTAC has not taken any measures, thus letting Vietnam and its puppets do as they please.

5. Previously, everyone warned Akashi that by acting like this, there would not be a neutral political atmosphere for elections; this would mean failure because Vietnam and the puppets are murdering others daily. No one thinks elections can take place.

Therefore, the essence of the 8 December meeting clearly raised this issue: If Akashi continues to act like this, the planned elections will fail and those responsible will be Vietnam and its puppets, UNTAC, and Akashi himself.

Demonstrations Said Generated by Popular Furor

BK1312044092 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 12 Dec 92

["Report on Demonstrations Against the Vietnamese and Puppets in Phnom Penh"]

[Text] 1. Lately, there have been false reports saying that students and residents in Phnom Penh will stage a demonstration organized by forces of the Party of Democratic Kampuchea [PDK]; that Phnom Penh students and people are organizing a demonstration against the PDK; and that the students are planning a demonstration against Thailand, which refuses to implement the United Nations Security Council's resolutions on the PDK. Also, there is a report that some major foreign powers and the Vietnamese and their puppets are planning a demonstration in an attempt to turn demonstrations against the Vietnamese and their puppets in Phnom Penh into protests against the PDK, and so on.

These mixed reports are on the development of the situation after the implementation of the Paris accord has failed because of the Vietnamese and their puppets, as well as the alliances inside and outside UNTAC [United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia], and especially on the situation developing before the end of 1992. For more than one year, the number of old and new Vietnamese in Cambodia has been increasing, particularly in Phnom Penh where there now are over two million Vietnamese or one quarter of the Cambodian population. More than half of those people have been issued Cambodian identity cards by the Vietnamese. Besides, Mr. Akashi has forged a law providing them with the right to vote, to become deputies or parliamentary members, and to make laws in Cambodia as well. The Vietnamese puppets continue as Vietnamese puppets and their ministries and ministers continue to constantly create insecurity and carry out fascist activities against the Cambodian people in rural and urban areas. As for Mr. Akashi, he continues to repeat that there is no Vietnamese presence and that elections should be held, and so on.

2. In the current situation after the nonimplementation of the Paris accord for more than one year, the general public, which has followed the issue, wonders what is the mass demonstration, who is staging it, and what is its purpose? Political analysts in the country and cities find it easy to assert that in the current situation it is the nation, the people, and the resistance forces that are the plaintiffs by virtue of the fundamental and absolute legislation of the Paris 23 October 1991 accord. As for the Vietnamese, the Vietnamese puppet leaders, Mr. Akashi, other UNTAC leaders, and the alliances inside and outside UNTAC, they are all defendants accused of breaching the Paris 23 October 1991 accord.

In such a situation, the masses who are planning to stage demonstrations are those who are furious with the Vietnamese aggressors, their puppets, and UNTAC leaders, and the purpose of their demonstrations is to oppose the Vietnamese race-exterminating annexationist aggressors, the Vietnamese puppets, and the alliances inside and outside UNTAC. The masses are within the forces of the complainants, and the forces will continue to develop unremittingly.

By all appearances, the Vietnamese aggressors, the Vietnamese puppets, and the alliances intend to resist the current trend and to turn it into a demonstration against the resistance forces.

The general public notes that the framework of the situation in Cambodia has developed during the 14 years of the anti-Vietnamese war for national liberation and during the time in which demand has been pressed for correct implementation of the terms of the accord. The national forces and the Cambodian people from all strata in rural and urban areas, as well as inside and outside the country have joined forces more closely, firmly, and broadly to steadfastly uphold the flags of the nation and the Paris 23 October 1991 accord. The national union forces and the Cambodian people cannot be easily manipulated at will by the Vietnamese aggressors and the alliances inside and outside UNTAC. On the contrary, the Vietnamese aggressors and, specifically, UNTAC leaders and alliances must take into careful consideration the good and bad consequences. As for the national forces and the people, their union and struggle are only for the correct execution of every term of the Paris 23 October 1991 accord, specifically the following provisions:

A. The SNC [Supreme National Council] must have the role as the sole legitimate organization and source of power in Cambodia during the transition;
B. UNTAC and the SNC must cooperate to verify and control the withdrawal of all categories of Vietnamese aggressor forces from Cambodia.
C. UNTAC must run the five ministries.
D. A neutral and secure political environment must be created for organizing free, democratic, and fair general elections.

Newly Emerging Party on National Identification

BK1312033692 Bangkok THE NATION in English 13 Dec 92 p A8

[By Kulachada Chaipipat]

[Text] Since party registration began in August, some unpopular and insignificant political parties have found progress difficult without relying on the backing of the old establishment or employing striking political platforms.

The newly-registered Reachea Niyum, or Royalist Party, is one such party.

Reachea Niyum was actually formed in Brussels in April this year and elected an 11-member executive board later in August. Organization of the party in Cambodia began in May this year but activity was hesitant out of fear of political intimidation and harassment by the powers-that-be. It was formally registered as the 14th political party according to UN Electoral Law for Cambodia on Nov 6.

Like other parties with vague intentions, or with little-known leaders, it has joined the Sihanouk camp to ensure it establishes a beach-head in parliament in the May election, the first multi-party election since the Khmer Rouge set up the first of the one-party communist regimes in 1975.

In fact in the preceding years going back to Cambodia's independence in 1953, most political parties had clung to Sihanouk's coat-tails in the free elections that were held.

Reachea Niyum is considered pro-Sihanouk like Prince Norodom Ranariddh's Funcinpec [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] Party which is capitalizing on his father's standing.

Some politicians in Phnom Penh dub the party "Funcinpec 2", a name its leader rejects outright. Party chairman Pen Daret claims his political aims are different from Funcinpec.

"We are pro-constitutional monarchy, but Funcinpec is for a presidential system," said Dr Pen, a former founding member of Funcinpec. "Since 1970, a lot of political parties have tried to establish a Republic of Cambodia and they accept a fait accompli republic. But we believe that without the king, Cambodia cannot live in peace."

Pen said Cambodia needed a king as a symbol of unity as much as Thailand does now. The former monarch, Prince Norodom Sihanouk, is currently president of Cambodia's Supreme National Council (SNC) and is the key figure in the move towards national reconciliation.

Most of the major political parties—the Neutral Party of former Sihanouk courtier Buor Herl, the Democracy and Development Party of Chak Saroeun, and the Liberal Democratic Party of Gen Sak Sutsakhan who defected from the Khmer People's National Liberation Front headed by former Cambodian Prime Minister Son San—have capitalized on Sihanouk's credibility with the electorate and have campaigned against Vietnamese settlers to woo voters.

Perhaps Reachea Niyum is the most distinctive among them for its integrated ethnic minorities programme which backs off from opposing Vietnamese settlers. "The racist campaign would further aggravate the rift within the nation," said Pen Daret, referring to a spate of killings of Vietnamese families living in Cambodia or supporters of political parties with a pro-Hanoi platform.

"Our policy is to tolerate these people [minority groups]," said Pen, who is currently attached to the advisory council on ethnic minorities problems to the Dutch government.

By not being identified as anti-Vietnam, the party has implicitly aligned itself with the pro-Vietnam State of Cambodia's People's Party in political parlance.

But Pen Daret said his party did not single out the Youn, or Vietnamese, as the only ethnic minority group in Cambodia. "Whether they be Thai, Chinese or Vietnamese, we could not eliminate them, as long as they accept our society," he said cautiously to avoid antagonizing the Khmer Rouge, whose anti-Vietnamese sentiment forms the core of its political platform.

"The government should create a friendly environment for them to leave," said Pen, adding that as long as the government keeps its sense of belonging to the country, it would never become a threat to the country.

He cited the criteria of minority groups such as those who migrated to Cambodia a very long time ago. But he emphasized that the migrants should not try to form a majority bloc, but remain as ethnic minorities.

According to a census conducted by non-governmental aid agencies, there are currently about one million Vietnamese settlers, mostly with Cambodian identity cards, in Cambodia as against the nine million indigenous Cambodian population. This does not include those who have illegally entered Cambodia to seek work.

Dr Pen, however, ruled out a forced repatriation of the Vietnamese settlers unless they were found to be illegal immigrants or had entered Cambodia for illegal reasons. "If they are illegal immigrants, we would consult with Hanoi to repatriate them," said Daret.

Like other overseas Cambodian patriots who wanted to return home to rebuild the war-shattered nation, Pen admits his inexperience in state affairs and lack of financial support might be a disadvantage compared to those in power.

"We just got the idea," explained Pen who left Cambodia on a Sihanouk scholarship to East Germany in 1967 when he was in his early twenties. He added that a western-oriented education however, might provide some attraction in that his colleagues were "young blood" with advanced knowledge in democracy and development.

Even so, the Khompong Thom native claimed he had received thousands of indications of support within two weeks of the party's organization.

"I talked to many people on the street. They said they wanted the king back as a symbol of the nation and national identity, as well as [providing] freedom of religion," he said.

Pen pointed out that a free-market economy, the fight against corruption, and social programmes for war amputees, beggars and the 70 per cent of the million soldiers from the four Cambodian warring factions who will need to be brought back into society after their disarmament was a core of the party's platform. It could be achieved within the constitutional monarchy system.

The party has set up its headquarters in Phnom Penh. It also plans to set up branches in provinces such as Kampong Chanang, Phosut, Ta Keo, Battambang and Kampong Cham.

Asked to comment on the Khmer Rouge's continued refusal to comply with the UN-sponsored peace plan, Pen said the radical faction's conditions for return could be met if the United Nations wanted, "even if leaving the door open will mean rescheduling the election date".

"I think the Khmer Rouge will join at the last minute," he predicted.

The resolution adopted by the UN Security Council on Nov 30 envisaged the election of a constituent assembly not later than May, with or without the stubborn Khmer Rouge, and has set Jan 31 as the deadline for the faction to register a political party.

The Khmer Rouge has so far refused to bow to the UN trade embargo designed to prod them back into the peace process. It has, however, announced the establishment of a new party under the name of National Unity of Cambodia Party, but did not say when it would be registered with Untac [United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia].

Given little time to campaign, and with limited financial support, Pen Daret said even if his party does not win in the election, he would try again.

'Senior Official' Speculates on Election Results

BK1412022192 Bangkok THE NATION in English 14 Dec 92 p A3

[By Khorkhet Chantaloetluck in Phnom Penh]

[Text] CAMBODIA'S general election scheduled for April or May will likely see Prime Minister Hun Sen's Cambodian People's Party win, a senior official here predicted.

The party, which is led by Heng Samrin, the honourary president, will take the most seats in the National Assembly because of its extensive base, said the Cambodian official who has closely monitored electoral registration.

He based his opinion on the number of branches the party has set up around the provinces and the number of people registered with the party.

Moreover, among the 18 parties so far registered for the election, the people know the Cambodian People's Party better than the others as its secretary general Hun Sen, has been premier of Cambodia for more than a decade.

The official said that as of this month, about three million eligible voters had registered to vote in the United Nations-sponsored election.

Eligible voters have to be over 18 years of age, have permanent residence and be born in the country. If not born in Cambodia, either their parents or grandparents have to reside here.

The official said the party likely to come in second to Hun Sen's is Funcinpec [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful and Cooperative Cambodia], which is led by Prince Ranariddh, a son of Prince Norodom Sihanouk. Funcinpec's members are loyal to the monarchy particularly Prince Sihanouk.

The third on the list is the Buddhist Liberal Party led by Son Sann of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF) army. The party, the official said, would provide the most competition for the Cambodian People's Party if former leading light Gen Sak Sutsakhan returned to its ranks.

Gen Sak, the former supreme commander of the KPNLF, presently administers the Liberal Democratic Party which has received strong support from Cambodian refugees in Europe and the United States.

The party also has active canvassers and party committeemen in these countries, according to the official.

He added, however, that Sak's defection to set up a new party has affected his support.

Certain parties, meanwhile, have already launched their election campaigns even though the UN has not yet allowed electioneering to begin. The official said he had learnt that some parties were suspected of having distributed gifts and money to buy votes.

"We do not yet have clear evidence of vote-buying, but we are keeping a close watch on them," he said.

—Kim Say Samalean, chief of the electoral data section, told THE NATION that the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (Untac) has set up a computer network centre in Phnom Penh where about 300 officials work around the clock.

The election officials mobilized in the provinces are sending lists of voters to the centre, the official said, adding that voters verified by the centre and given identity cards from Untac can vote in the election.

Kim Say Samalean said representatives of the parties registered for the election are observing the registration process. If they suspect any potential voter is a foreigner pretending to be a Cambodian, they alert the officials who then question the person.

The parties have been allowed to monitor the registration because of fears that a great number of foreigners, particularly Vietnamese, have been trying to disguise themselves as Cambodians in order to vote.

The Khmer Rouge faction which has still refused to disarm its troops and enter the election, has demanded that Untac verify the complete withdrawal of Vietnamese from Cambodia.

Kim Say Samalean said an election regulation stipulating that only Cambodia-born people or those born overseas with relatives still residing in the country can have right to vote, is an attempt to prevent foreigners registering.

NADK Spokesman Urges Vigilance Against Enemy

BK1512041492 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 14 Dec 92

["Communique of the spokesman of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea on upholding high vigilance against enemy's political schemes and military activities"—read by announcer]

[Text] 1. The National Army of Democratic Kampuchea [NADK] has received a reliable report saying that on 10 December, seven helicopters flew from Kompong Som in the direction of Phnom Penh. There were no signs to show that these helicopters belonged to the UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia]. They are plain (?white-colored) and fighter-type helicopters.

2. The NADK and Cambodian people have hundreds of such experiences, that is, whenever the NADK and Cambodian people are off guard, the enemy would by land, air, or waterways, use its weapons to destroy and smash our resistance forces and people. We will never forget these experiences.

3. For this reason, the NADK calls on all NADK units and people in all areas to:

A. Always hold aloft their vigilance against the enemy who may come by land, air, or waterways.

B. Arrange a thorough defense and prevent themselves from being destroyed and smashed by the enemy.

C. The NADK would like to stress that the Cambodian nation, people, and national resistance forces have become victims of the great destruction caused in the past 14 years by the war of the Yuon [Vietnamese] aggressors, expansionists, annexationists, and race exterminators and their lackeys. They are the accused who must be punished according to international law. As for the Cambodian nation, people, and national resistance forces, they are the victims, the accusers, who have the right to defend themselves and prevent the enemy from destroying, smashing, and killing them at will.

4. The NADK would like to declare before the national and international public that if any enemy comes by land, air, or waterways to attack and smash the resistance forces and Cambodian people, that it must be held responsible for his own crimes.

[Signed] The spokesman of the NADK.

[Dated] 15 December 1992.

Indonesia

Cooperation With Malaysia Against Smuggling Seen

BK1412154092 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 1500 GMT 14 Dec 92

[Text] Malaysia will intensify cooperation with Indonesia to combat smuggling activities. Speaking in Langkawi, Ahmad Abdullah, deputy director general of Malaysian Customs Department, said today his government will seek funds to purchase boats for patrolling areas where smuggling is rampant. Meanwhile, Ali Purwito, an official in charge of antismuggling activities, said the Indonesian customs authorities had detected a syndicate smuggling fertilizer and timber from Indonesia to the PRC and Vietnam via Malaysian waters.

Finance Minister on Fiscal Condition, Oil Output

BK1512060692 Jakarta THE JAKARTA POST in English 3 Dec 92 p 1

[Text] Jakarta (JP)—Minister of Finance J.B. Sumarlin expressed optimism yesterday that state revenues would surpass the government's target of Rp. [Rupiah] 56.10 trillion (approximately U.S. $28 billion) in the current fiscal year.

The minister told members of the House of Representatives (DPR) in a hearing yesterday that receipts from domestic sources had reached around Rp. 21.8 trillion in the first semester of fiscal 1992/93.

"The government expects another Rp. 25.8 trillion from the local sources in the second semester, which will raise the total amount to Rp. 46.50 trillion in the whole fiscal year or around Rp. 1 trillion above the target," Sumarlin told the House's Budgetary Commission.

Sumarlin said earnings from oil and gas exports are also expected to pass the target of Rp. 13.9 trillion.

"The receipts from oil and gas exports totaled around 7.8 trillion in the second semester," he said. "Another Rp. 7.8 trillion is expected from this sector in the second semester."

He said the volume of the state budget in the next fiscal year would be at the same level as this fiscal year's because the amount of oil and gas earnings, foreign loans, and non-oil taxes would not significantly increase.

Sumarlin said that the country's oil production is likely to continue at the current level of around 1.5 million barrels per day, including condensate of around 160,000 barrels per day.

He said oil prices would still be around the $18 per barrel mark because the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) still faces constraints in achieving its target of $21 per barrel.

On the amount of foreign loans in the next fiscal year, Sumarlin said that it would be around this fiscal Year's level of approximately Rp. 9.6 trillion.

Sumarlin explained that Indonesia would face more constraints in obtaining soft loans in the next fiscal year. "This is not only caused by the loan scarcity but also because of more strict conditions," Sumarlin said, citing as an example the willingness of industrialized nations to provide soft loans only for non-commercial projects.

The minister said donor countries grouped in the Concultative Group for Indonesia (CGI) have also been forced to reduce their loan commitments in order to cope with their own financial problems.

Indonesia's outstanding foreign debts have reached around $70 billion. Approximately $52 billion is owed by the government and the remainder by private companies.

Sumarlin said that around 90 percent of the government's debts are from soft loans.

Indonesia received loan commitments of around $4.7 billion in fiscal 1991/92 from the dissolved Inter-Government Group on Indonesia (IGGI) and around $5.6 billion in fiscal 1992/93 from CGI in July, this year.

Debt repayment was expected to reach around $4.7 billion for debt principals and around $2.8 billion for interest servicing, he said.

Minister Discloses Interisland Bridge Project

BK1212045092 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0000 GMT 12 Dec 92

[Text] Habibie, minister of state for research and technology, has called for stricter conditions on the entry of people into Batam Island. They must, among other things, have skills needed by the island. Habibie is in Batam to receive a report on the second stage expansion of Hang Nadin Airport. He also said that Batam and Bintan islands would be linked by a bridge in 2000. The bridge will be longer than the Golden Gate in San Francisco. Six bridges linking Batam with several islands to the southeast of Batam will be inaugurated in 1995.

Basic Stand in East Timor Remains Unchanged

BK1412141492 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 1200 GMT 14 Dec 92

[Text] Foreign Minister Ali Alatas says the decision of the majority of the East Timorese people to integrate into Indonesia in 1976 will never be swayed by demands made by a small minority of people in exile. Speaking to reporters after he met with President Suharto at the Merdeka Palace today, Minister Alatas said the upcoming talks with the Portuguese side in New York on 17 December will still adopt the old format, namely without any precondition, and Indonesia will simply listen to Portugal's fresh proposal. Alatas stressed that Indonesia's basic stand on the East Timor issue remains unchanged.

[Begin Alatas recording] Therefore, our stand is, if such is the Portuguese demand, we will never accept it. However, if the talks are aimed at seeking a fair and respectable settlement for all parties or a settlement acceptable to the UN General Assembly, Indonesia will always work together with the UN secretary general. We are not recalcitrant people unwilling to hold dialogues. We are a nation that always highly upholds dialogues and peaceful solution to conflicts. Such is our basic stand, which I will adopt at the upcoming second meeting. Let us wait and see how things will turn out. [end recording]

Foreign Minister Ali Alatas is scheduled to leave for New York tomorrow and on 17 December, he will attend a tripartite meeting consisting of the Portuguese foreign minister, the UN secretary general, and himself.

47 East Timor Rebels Surrender to Authorities

BK1412122092 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0700 GMT 14 Dec 92

[Text] A total of 47 underground members of East Timor GPK [Security Disturbance Movement] yesterday repented their crimes at the (Altora) church, (Suebada) subdistrict, Manatuto district. They also took a traditional oath of allegiance on 11 December.

Lieutenant Colonel Pasaribu, commander of the local Military District Command, said their decision to surrender to the authorities began when they met with a local community leader, who was also chairman of Manatuto Regional Legislative Assembly. They also claimed they had nothing to do with [captured rebel leader] Xanana Gusmao and they felt they had been instigated into joining the movement.

Religious Conflicts 'Must Not Be Imported'

BK1112034192 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0000 GMT 10 Dec 92

[Text] Religious Affairs Minister Munawir Syadzali calls on those who have found leaflets which insult other religious teachings to hand them over to the authorities. Speaking at a meeting with members of religious councils in Jakarta yesterday, the minister said these leaflets must not be duplicated or given to other people. The minister stressed that ethnic or religious conflicts overseas must not be imported into Indonesia. Minister Munawir Syadzali added that the public must remain vigilant against attempts to undermine religious harmony as well as national unity and integrity.

Commenting on student street brawls, the minister hoped that parents and educators would take part in the authorities' efforts to cope with them. He noted that an individual's dignity is not measured by his ability to fight or intimidate other people, but by his religious faith, knowledge, and practice.

Laos

Ministry of Information, Culture Ends PRC Visit

BK1412045392 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 14 Dec 92

[Text] At noon on 12 December, a delegation of the Information and Culture Ministry led by Bounteng Vongsai, acting minister of information and culture, returned to Vientiane after a one-week visit to the PRC. The visit was in response to an invitation of the Chinese culture minister.

During the visit, our Lao Information and Culture Ministry delegation met and held a consultative meeting to exchange views on culture with a delegation of the PRC Culture Ministry. Following the meeting, the two sides agreed to expand the cultural cooperation between the two countries, both at the central and local levels, in 1993.

Our Lao delegation also visited the cultural establishments in Beijing capital, Shanghai city, and Kunming town in Yunnan Province. It also visited a number of production bases of the PRC.

Leaders Mark Kaysone's Birthday Anniversary

BK1212100092 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0500 GMT 12 Dec 92

[Text] The Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP] Central Committee and the Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] jointly organized a congregation and ceremony to commemorate the 72d birthday anniversary of the late beloved President Kaysone Phomvihan.

This morning, the LPRP Central Committee and the LPDR Government held a ceremony at the Main Hall of the LPRP Central Committee, in Vientiane Capital, to commemorate the 72d birthday anniversary of our late beloved leader President Kaysone Phomvihan on 13 December 1992. A total of about 600 Buddhist monks of various strata and high-level authorities from various ministries and departments were present on the occasion.

Participating in the ceremony were Khamtai Siphandon, chairman of the LPRP Central Committee and prime minister; members of the LPRP Central Committee Political Bureau including Nouhak Phoumsavan, Phoun Sipaseut, Maichantan Sengmani, Choummali Saignason, Oudom Khatthi-gna, and Thongsing Thammavong; advisors to the LPRP Central Committee being Souphanouvong, Phoumi Vongvichit, and Sisomphon Lovansai; members of the Party Central Committee; alternate members of the Party Central Committee; ministers and deputy ministers; and members of the Supreme People's Assembly.

At the solemn occasion, Thongsing Thammavong, member of the LPRP Central Committee Political Bureau and head of the LPRP Organization Board, made an opening address at the ceremony and invited all present to stand in silence for one minute to express condolences to the soul of the late beloved leader President Kaysone Phomvihan.

After that the chairman of the LPRP Central Committee, Khamtai Siphandon, delivered a speech hailing the works and contribution of the late president.

Khamtai Marks Birthday

BK1512103192 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 12 Dec 92

[Speech by Khamtai Siphandon, chairman of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee and prime minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, delivered at ceremony held at the main hall of the Party Central Committee in Vientiane on 12 December in commemoration of the 72d birth anniversary of late President Kaysone Phomvihan—recorded]

[Summary] "Today, we hold a meeting, amid the feelings of grievous mourning and affection, to commemorate the 72d birth anniversary of Comrade President Kaysone Phomvihan, our most beloved and respected leader, who has just passed away. President Kaysone Phomvihan has left us at the time when our multiethnic Lao people are elated at the initial success that they have achieved in implementing our party's comprehensive restructuring policy as initiated by him. Our party—a genuine revolutionary, patriotic party which was founded, trained, and fostered by President Kaysone Phomvihan—has been strengthened and consolidated with a new quality step by step. The popular democratic system has also been perfected in all respects. The people's democratic rights and rights to ownership of the country have been promoted and expanded along with the implementation of the renovation of the political system. The people's Armed Forces, which were directly founded, led, and guided by President Kaysone Phomvihan, have also enhanced their revolutionary true nature and loyalty in service of the nation and people. They have securely defended the revolutionary gains. These are considered a precious, incomparable heritage that he has left behind for our entire party, state, Army, and people."

Beloved comrades and friends, through many periods of the growth and development of our Lao nation, there appeared to be many outstanding heroes in the history of our Lao nation, such as Prince Fa Ngum who rallied, established, and prospered during the Lan Xang domain, Prince Setthathilat who established the Lao Lan Xang domain, Prince Souli-gna Vongsa who led his subjects to build the country to be advanced and prosperous in many fields, and Prince Anouvong who led the building of Vientiane capital and the restoration of the national independence. In the following stage, there also appeared many persons whose names have been inscribed in chapters of our Lao history for their leading role in the heroic struggle against the colonialists for national independence and freedom of the people. But, in the new stage in which our Lao nation has been under the leadership of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party, there has been no person who has maintained outstanding roles, be it at home or abroad, like President Kaysone Phomvihan. President Kaysone Phomvihan was an outstanding revolutionary and patriot. His patriotic spirit emerged from his understanding that his nation was trampled on and that the people were oppressed and intimidated by the colonialists. It is noteworthy that it emerged following his studies and understanding of facts about the causes of the growth, strength, and prosperity and the causes of deterioration and loss of independence of the nation in different periods. He was very proud of the heroic and glorious traditions of the Lao nation. President Kaysone Phomvihan's ardent patriotism was reflected through his concrete action when he was still young. He took part in the youths' national salvation movement when he was only 24 years old. At that age, he also began to study lessons on the Great October Revolution. In particular in the period after President Ho Chi Minh applied Marxism-Leninism to the national salvation movements in the three Indochinese countries, President Kaysone Phomvihan, together with a number of his patriotic Lao comrades, took the offensive in carrying out revolutionary activities, the activities which led to the establishment of political foundation and the founding of people's armed forces. His profound patriotic spirit was shown in his profound affection and confidence in the multiethnic Lao people.

Since the first day of his revolutionary struggle, President Kaysone Phomvihan had closely associated with the multiethnic Lao people. He had always shared woe and weal with cadres, combatants, and people. The fraternal people of all tribes loved and trusted President Kaysone Phomvihan. They regarded him as their beloved and precious son or nephew and as their beloved and respected leader. For President Kaysone Phomvihan himself, he was always confident in the invincible strength of the people and truly loved the fraternal Lao people of all tribes. He told everyone that no matter under whatever circumstances, with the people's support, one could successfully fulfill all tasks and win victory in the revolution. To his views, the people are considered the core and the people's strength is considered invincible strength. President Kaysone Phomvihan was absolutely confident in the people's strength. President Kaysone Phomvihan's profound patriotism was also reflected through his maintenance and preservation of the fine art, culture, and traditional practices of the nation.

With the said patriotic spirit, President Kaysone Phomvihan became an outstanding patriot who had intended only to bring about the independence, unification, and prosperity to the nation and to bring about genuine freedom, rights to ownership of the country, happiness, and plentiful life to the people.

"Beloved comrades and friends, President Kaysone Phomvihan was a talented and clear-sighted leader who was absolutely confident in final victory of the revolution. He was both a staunch strategist and clever and bright tactician. President Kaysone Phomvihan took an initiative in proposing appropriate plans and policies to timely settle various problems in all turning points of the revolution. He adequately encouraged, rallied, and combined revolutionary forces, and appropriately applied forms of struggle to different practical conditions. He skillfully combined the form of armed struggle with the form of political struggle." He had experiences in taking advantage of opportunity and combining the national strength with the international strength. He successfully led our Lao revolution to march from one victory to a new, ever greater victory.

"As the founder of our party, President Kaysone Phomvihan had always attached importance to the task of consolidating, building, and strengthening the party in all respects. First and foremost, he had paid close attention to maintaining the unique solidarity within the party, in particular among leading organizations of the party." He strictly respected main principles of the party, in particular the principle on democratic centralization. He was truly confident in the intelligence and abilities of his leading associates. He consistently built and consolidated the unification in the country. President Kaysone Phomvihan always served as an example in firmly grasping the people's strength and regarding it as a significant tool to consolidate and enhance the unification within the party. He always built the party to be firm and pure so as to serve as the core of unique solidarity among the leading organizations and in the entire party. He closely paid attention to the political and ideological work as well as the party and cadre building work. He gave an instruction that first and foremost, cadres and party members must be trained to maintain the revolutionary line of thinking and ideals and so as to faithfully serve the nation and people. He also pointed out that the line, plans, and policies of the party and state must be turned into actual movements of the masses."

President Kaysone Phomvihan considered the political and ideological work as very significant. "He said: It is related to the organizational work as well as the party and cadre work. He always stressed that to promote and expand the organizational strength and to raise the efficiency of the work, it is necessary to clearly fix roles, responsibilities, rights, and duties of each organization and each individual." He asked for special care for senior revolutionary cadres, pensioned elderly cadres, and families of those who scored meritorious deeds and have sacrificed for the national cause. He always asked to have the cadres' activities and achievements be correctly and fairly assessed. "Throughout his life, President Kaysone Phomvihan took into consideration these issues. This was why our party has become a truly patriotic, revolutionary party and why it has been consolidated and built to become ever stronger both in the political and ideological field and the organizational field." It has served as the center of unique solidarity among the entire people, and serves as the leading core for the political system of the popular democratic system.

"President Kaysone Phomvihan represented a symbol of solidarity, harmony, unification, and affection among the multiethnic Lao people of all strata both at home and abroad. He had always paid attention to maintaining and enhancing the harmony and solidarity among the multiethnic people by restricting and doing away with the grudge, contention, disagreement, and inequality among the multiethnic people." He had always tried to bring about freedom and happiness to the fraternal Lao people of all tribes so as to together build and develop the country to be prosperous and strong. He also attached importance to the consolidation and strengthening of the front work. He considered the front as the base for rallying the entire people.

President Kaysone Phomvihan was a skillful strategist. He was the founder of the heroic Lao People's Revolutionary Party and the direct commander of various people's armed forces. He always gave an instruction that in building and consolidating the armed forces of various types, the party and cadre building work must be taken into account, and attention must be paid to educating and training cadres and combatants in the political and ideological field so as to make them to be loyal to the revolutionary cause and to serve in the armed forces for the benefits of the nation and people. "With the said attentive guidance of President Kaysone Phomvihan, our people's Armed Forces have been consolidated, trained, and built to become ever stronger with each passing day and to serve as the core for the national salvation cause and the cause of defending the revolutionary gains. They have also positively contributed to developing the society and economy of the country and guaranteeing peaceful life of the people in the new stage. President Kaysone Phomvihan was a leader who profoundly understood the practical conditions of the country. He maintained a spirit of independence and self-mastery. He also maintained an initiative in applying overall theoretical principles and systems of various countries to the practical conditions in our country."

Throughout his life, President Kaysone Phomvihan had attentively studied specific points in the socioeconomic field of each country to use them as the basis for the adoption of an appropriate line. He had also striven to study main principles of Marxism-Leninism as well as lessons of various countries and appropriately applied them to the practical conditions of our country in each stage.

"With the profound understanding on facts in each field of the country, upholding the spirit of independence, self- mastery, and initiatives, President Kaysone Phomvihan took offensive in leading his associates in consolidating and perfecting the line and policies to be ever more appropriate in conformity with the revolutionary characteristics in the new stage—the stage of a popular democratic system." On this basis, our party has adopted a direction for the establishment and expansion of the popular democratic system and built primary factors for socialism step by step.

"As founder of the popular democratic state, President Kaysone Phomvihan gave the clear views that a popular democratic state is a state truly representing the interests of the multiethnic Lao people, because it is from the people, by the people, and for the people. All political organizations have the Lao People's Revolutionary Party as their core. He clearly pointed out that only under our popular democratic system, can the people's democratic rights and rights to ownership of the country be entremely promoted and expanded." He also explained that under the popular democratic system, the state apparatus organizing system must be simple, and roles, responsibilities, rights, and duties of each state apparatus must be clearly defined under the party's leadership. He continued to note that under this system, we must make use of the strength and capabilities of all economic sectors in order to expand production force and turn the natural economy into a goods-oriented economy under the market economic mechanism.

"President Kaysone Phomvihan noted: At the same time, it is necessary to broaden the relations and cooperation with foreign countries and draw investments from various countries with a view to exploiting potentials and strength of our country's rich natural resources. With the said line, in the recent years, new steps of advance have been achieved in the socioeconomic development in our country. The multiethnic Lao people's material and spiritual life has also been improved step by step. President Kaysone Phomvihan, following the lessons that he learned from the beginning years of the cause of defending and building the new system, was the one who initiated the comprehensive restructuring work in our country with a firm intention of developing the country in all respects and bringing about better living conditions, both material and spiritual, to the people. President Kaysone Phomvihan showed his steadfast determination to carry out the comprehensive restructuring policy to lead the country to firmly march forward to achieve the goal that the party and people have chosen."

President Kaysone Phomvihan had tirelessly carried out activities to publicize this restructuring line both at home and abroad. At the same time, he tried to learn lessons from various countries and apply them to the practical conditions of our country. "Our party's initial success in implementing the new, restructuring line, which is appropriate to the specific points of the country and which conforms to the people's aspirations, has closely resulted from the great devotion of President Kaysone Phomvihan in regard of his intelligence, energy, knowledge, and lessons."

President Kaysone Phomvihan was a leader who maintained broad mass attitudes and lofty ethics. He always placed the national interests above his personal interests.

"His protracted life and activities as leader of the Lao nation and revolution served as a bright and precious example for the cadres, party members, combatants, and multiethnic Lao people throughout the country." He deserved to be a hero of the Lao nation. President Kaysone Phomvihan was also a revolutionary who maintained pure spirit of internationalism.

"As a leader of a state which has maintained a worthy status in the international arena, President Kaysone Phomvihan positively contributed to the struggle to maintain and enhance international solidarity between revolutionary and progressive forces in the world for peace, national independence, democracy, and social progress as well as for friendship and cooperation between various countries and our country. President Kaysone Phomvihan attentively established and flourished the friendship, special solidarity, and all-round cooperation between Laos and Vietnam and the traditional relations of friendship among the Indochinese countries. He never ceased in promoting and expanding the friendship and good cooperation between the Lao People's Democratic Republic and neighboring countries as well as other countries in the world. In short, with his life and activities over the past half century, President Kaysone Phomvihan served as a precious son of the multiethnic Lao people, an outstanding patriotic revolutionary, beloved and respected leader of the party and state, and a hero of our Lao nation. He scored great, incomparable meritorious deeds and achievements for the nation, and has left behind the precious heritage for our party, nation, and people."

All patriotic Lao people of various tribes and all strata, cadres, combatants, and people, both at home and abroad, are proud over having a talented, clear-sighted leader like President Kaysone Phomvihan. We, with mournful sentiments and profound gratitude to the late President Kaysone Phomvihan, pledge to continue to pursue the great cause of President Kaysone Phomvihan until final victory. Let all of us learn from President Kaysone Phomvihan's examples and translate into reality his instructions and teachings. May President Kaysone Phomvihan survive in our cause forever!

Philippines

Ramos Discounts Reports of Rebel Plan To Attack Manila

HK1412141192 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 14 Dec 92

[Text] President Fidel Ramos has again sneered at the New People's Army's [NPA] capability to spread chaos throughout Metro Manila. During his weekly news conference, Ramos said that his government is not concerned with reports that the NPA is again becoming active and is preparing for more attacks within Metro Manila. The president said that communist rebels are no longer capable of launching such an offensive due to conflicts within the movement itself and the diminishing support it receives from the masses.

[Begin Ramos recording in English] To tell you frankly, I do not believe that the NPA, at this stage, has any capability to surround Metro Manila from the countryside. If there is such a report, I take it with a very, very big grain of salt. We must analyze these things at three levels. First is the intention, and then the plan, and then the capability. So they may have the intention [words indistinct] on the part of the NPA; hence, there are two or three of them that have the same intention. Maybe they will have a plan. But the most important thing here is the capability. They simply are not capable of doing it. [end recording]

Military Documents Show Muslim Rebel Forces Remain Intact

HK1512035892 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE WEEKLY in English 15 Dec 92 p 3

[Report by Frank Longid Jr.]

[Text] Muslim secessionists appeared better off than communist rebels, who had been reduced significantly, because their strength, firearms and areas of influence remain relatively unchanged since 1990, military intelligence documents showed.

The papers on the Moro National Liberation Front [MNLF] showed that as of Sept. 30 this year, only 83 "MNLF-related violent incidents" have occurred, indicating a significant downtrend from last year's total of 281.

The number of "MNLF terroristic acts" have also shown a downtrend, with only 30 being recorded as of the last quarter compared to 78 for last year. These "terroristic acts" are included in the totals for "violent incidents."

Military spokesman Col. Rufo de Veyra reiterated the military's earlier assessment that the MNLF, MILF [Moro Islamic Liberation Front] and their breakaway groups were "a spent force...most of them are what are called 'lost command,' engaged in brigandage and banditry."

"They are not even fighting the government anymore," he said.

De Veyra, who up to a few months ago held a field assignment in Mindanao, said the MNLF and Moro Islamic Liberation Front "have been reduced to tunda forces [words indistinct] effectively they are subdued except for these tunda forces who are terrorizing the countryside."

"Tunda forces" are what are often referred to as "lost commands," he explained. "These are just foraging groups, many of them are brigands, and leaders of the secessionist groups have already washed their hands of them."

Records showed that as of June 30, violent incidents involving both the MNLF and the MILF totalled only 52. The total number of MNLF/MILF-related violent incidents totalled 325 last year.

However, the strength of the seccessionists placed at 20,320 in 1990 and 19,790 in 1991 remained almost unchanged at 19,670 as of the last quarter, the documents revealed. The last figure can be broken down into 13,560 for the MNLF, 5,680 for the MILF and 430 for the MNLF renegade groups.

Firearms held by the MNLF and MILF were pegged this year at 12,390, a scant decrease from last year's 12,500. The figure for 1990 was 12,580.

Furthermore, the number of areas affected by the secessionists has remained unchanged from last year's figure of 1,199. In 1990 this was placed at 1,207.

A high-ranking military officer said the reason behind the unchanged figures was that the Armed Forces had "for all practical purposes ceased to conduct major offensive against them."

NPA Rebels in Southern Tagalog Declare Holiday Cease-Fire

HK1512113992 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 15 Dec 92

[Text] The New People's Army rebels in Southern Tagalog today declared a cease-fire to ensure a peaceful Christmas celebration. The declaration was issued by a top NPA rebel leader from the Melito Glor Command, Gregorio Rosal, alias Comrade Roger. The declaration says that the rebels will stop attacking police and military detachments throughout the region on Christmas and New Year's day in deference to the spirit of the Yuletide season. Southern Tagalog has remained one of the NPA's strongholds.

House Speaker Opposes Amnesty for U.S. Colonel's Killers

HK1512035592 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 14 Dec 92

[Text] House Speaker Jose de Venecia yesterday challenged the plan of the National Unification Commission to include the killers of American Colonel James Rowe in the government's amnesty program. De Venecia said this may affect diplomatic relations with other countries, especially the United States.

The speaker said he has asked the House Committees on Foreign Affairs and Justice to study the NUC plan to ensure that it will not imperil Philippine relations with other countries. Rowe, a counterinsurgency expert, was shot and killed inside the headquarters of the Joint U.S. Military Advisory Group in Quezon City several years ago. [sentence as heard]

NUC To Conduct Nationwide Consultations on Peace Talks

HK1412140092 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 14 Dec 92

[Text] The National Unification Commission [NUC] will be conducting consultations on the administration's peace initiative throughout the nation. This was announced by NUC member Senator Rodolfo Biazon during an interview at the Senate. Biazon added that NUC Chairperson Haydee Yorac is currently in Cebu consulting the province's citizens to get their opinion of the government's peace initiative.

With regard to the alleged schism in the communist party leadership, the senator said that the NUC is not concerned with internal CPP problems. The senator said the NUC is only concerned with ensuring the success of the peace negotiations.

Police, Armed Forces Search for Zamboanga Attackers

HK1412133992 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 14 Dec 92

[Text] Deputy Director-General Raul Imperial, Philippine National Police [PNP] chief, has ordered the immediate organization of a group of police and armed forces personnel to effect a massive manhunt operation against a lost Moro National Liberation Front [MNLF] command which massacred approximately 40 civilians yesterday in Barangay Sinaguran, Tungawan, Zamboanga del Sur.

Imperial has directed Director Job Mayo, Jr., chief superintendent of PNP Regional Command 9, to deploy adequate personnel throughout the area to prevent the MNLF lost command from possibly passing through. The massacre victims were reportedly killed while preparing for a ritual. The assailants fired upon and hacked the villagers to death. Four other Muslims, identified as Wenceslao and Nene Manindad, Nonoy Mabulan, and Morgan Mantuba were seriously wounded in the incident.

[Begin Imperial recording in English] We are expecting to conduct pursuit operations since the area is still part of our jurisdiction. [end recording]

Meanwhile, reports have indicated that the massacre occurred because the civilians in the area refused to pay revolutionary taxes. It was not related to the killing of Mindanao kidnap-for-ransom leader Abugado Gado, alias Commander Mubarak. President Fidel V. Ramos has given his assurance that the Zamboanga del Sur massacre will not affect the government's peace efforts. Ramos made this statement in view of the massacre of more than 40 Muslim [as heard] civilians in the area. Ramos has also ordered the Philippine National Police to pursue the bandits.

[Begin Ramos recording in English] As far as the national peace process is concerned, that is ongoing, and we will not allow incidents like this to derail that. I am saying the military and police units are now under more pressure from me than before in previous administrations. [end recording]

NPA Command Chief, Quezon Governor To Hold Talks

HK1212072392 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 11 Dec 92

[Text] Gregorio Rosal alias Comrade Roger, leader of the New People's Army Melito Glor Command, and Quezon Province Governor Eduardo Rodriguez are scheduled to hold preliminary talks in preparation for the peace initiative set by the government.

The government has not specified the exact time and place of the meeting. It was reported that among the agenda items to be discussed is the proposal to free political detainees and other members of the communist movement.

MNLF Orders Antigovernment Attacks in Zamboanga

HK1412043092 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 14 Dec 92 p 16

[Report by Joey Ybanez]

[Text] Dipolog City—The Moro National Liberation Front command has ordered field commanders of the Bangsa Moro Army in the Zamboanga peninsula to launch attacks against government troops, intelligence reports from the military warned here.

Communist Party Pulls 'Liquidation Squad' Out of Manila

HK1412023192 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in Tagalog 0100 GMT 14 Dec 92

[Text] The New People's Army urban liquidation squad, the Alex Boncayao Brigade, will be pulled out of Metro Manila as agreed to by top Communist Party of the Philippines [CPP] officials. This was announced by Brigadier General Alfred Filler, the Armed Forces chief of intelligence. Filler said the dismantling of the Metro Manila- Rizal Party Committee has also been agreed to. However, Filler did not indicate why the two principal CPP components are being pulled out of Metro Manila.

Thailand

Foreign Minister Reaffirms Noninterfernce in Burma

BK1412155192 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1030 GMT 14 Dec 92

[Text] Foreign Minister Squadron Leader Prasong Sunsiri stated in Songkhla Province on Saturday [12 December] that Thailand reaffirms that it has no policy of interfering in Burma's internal affairs. Hence, there is no need to review Thailand's policy regarding ethnic minorities as proposed by some people. He stressed that Thailand has a clear policy of not supporting ethnic minorities making use of the Thai border as staging areas for activities against its neighboring countries. Thailand will not tolerate such activities but will take drastic action. The minister said that the interests of certain groups having businesses with those ethnic minorities are not more important than Thailand's national interest.

Concerning border problems such as weapons smuggling or support for ethnic minorities by some factions without the knowledge of the Thai Government, the minister said: This must stop. We must have the trust of our neighbors. There is no need to review any particular law, but we must instruct our authorities to enforce the law effectively.

On border demarcation between Thailand and Burma, Squadron Leader Prasong said the two countries already have a joint border committee. He only wishes to see work accelerated as there is still a long stretch of the border to be defined and demarcated. Border demarcation should be completed as soon as possible. Yet, this depends on the readiness of the two countries in terms of equipment and technology. He expressed the hope that the same method used in the Thai-Malaysian border demarcation will be applied to Thai-Burmese border demarcation. Once fulfilled, the work will create mutual trust and dispel suspicion from Burma.

Squadron Leader Prasong said Thailand upholds a policy of human rights in dealing with the Burmese students fleeing here for political asylum. Yet, he said the students are not allowed to have weapons and they should accept staying in the Burmese students' camp, which is not a detention center because the students are entitled to travel in and out of the center.

Commenting on the news that General Colin Powell would be named the new U.S. secretary of state, Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri said there should be no major impact on Thailand if this is the case. In administration, one must think about policies first before individuals. Individuals are only tools to carry out policies. It is believed that General Colin Powell, chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, which is the highest position in the U.S. Armed Forces, will be named secretary of state in the government of President-Elect Bill Clinton, which will take office on 20 January.

The foreign minister said he believes the policy of the new U.S. Government, which will be controlled by the Democratic Party, will stress internal affairs, such as correcting economic ills, solving problems of debt, and retaliation against U.S. trading partners—ones which are equal to the United States, like the EC. He said there should be no big changes in U.S. policies toward a small country like Thailand. Squadron Leader Prasong said General Powell is expected to be placed in charge of foreign affairs in the new U.S. Government, and it is not likely he will remain chief of the military since it is known that President Bill Clinton's administration will try to screen the military budget and cut down on personnel. It is believed the general would rather have a new job which has nothing to do with the military. It is also possible that General Powell could be made a national security adviser instead of secretary of state.

Foreign Minister Prasong also supports civilized countries' pursuit of a new world order in keeping with the post-Cold War era, by stressing democracy, human rights, liberal economy, and environmental protection. Anyway, he said, they should give some time to other countries for adjustment.

Notes Policy Principles, Priorities

BK1312104592 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in English 0000 GMT 13 Dec 92

[Text] Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri has stressed Thailand's foreign policy of adhering to the principles by the world community and adjusting its trends in accordance with the change in global situation. The minister said this government has assumed office for only three months, but it had to tackle many problems which had been accumulated over a long period. Among these problems are border issues with neighboring countries. The minister said the government places greater importance to Thailand's neighbors, such as Laos, Vietnam, Cambodia, and Myanmar [Burma], in a set of policies to help strengthen the economies of these countries while improving the well-being of their peoples. More importantly, he said, Thailand will try to eradicate suspicion and create confidence between Thailand and these countries. The minister also denied an accusation saying that Thailand had trade contacts with only the Khmer Rouge among all Cambodian factions. He said Thailand maintained good relations with all Cambodian factions and has not given more support to any particular group.

1925 Accord To Guide Burma Border Talks

BK1312075492 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in English 0000 GMT 13 Dec 92

[Text] Thailand's Committee on Demarcation of the Thai-Myanmar [Burmese] Border will follow the Thai-Burmese border agreement of 1925 for talks to end Hill 491 dispute. Deputy Foreign Minister Surin Phitsuwan said the agreement has taken a watershed as the borderline.

Mr. Surin, in his capacity as chairman of the Committee on Demarcation of the Thai-Myanmar Border on Friday held a meeting with the committee and agreed to follow the agreement of 1925 for talks with Myanmar authorities. He expected Myanmar to rely on the same agreement. After the troop withdrawal from Hill 491 by the Myanmar side, authorities of both countries will inspect the area. The troop withdrawal will be accomplished by 25 December in compliance with the Thai-Myanmar agreement resulting from recent talks between delegations of the two countries held on 8 December. Myanmar authorities will be invited to Thailand for further talks on demarcation line. But the exact date has not yet fixed.

Mr. Surin said the talks should be held step by step and the two sides should come up with the ratification to avoid future problems.

Constitutional Status Sought for Poll Group

BK1312050492 Bangkok THE NATION in English 13 Dec 92 p A1

[Text] Members of the ad hoc House committee reviewing the Constitution are pushing to constitutionalize the role of PollWatch to give more power to clamp down on vote-buying and other forms of election fraud.

Dr Amon Raksasat, a key member of the House committee said yesterday he would ask the committee to discuss the proposal during its next meeting on Wednesday.

"PollWatch has not been an effective tool in combatting election fraud basically because it does not have legal status," said Dr Amon.

PollWatch was set up by the first Anan government as an independent body to monitor the elections in March, and again in September, this year. Though Pollwatch was credited with having curbed vote-buying, its work has been hamstrung by a lack of legal power.

Amon said although PollWatch had substantiated charges against suspects in over 300 cases, the Interior Ministry had been conspicuously slow in following up on them.

"So how do you expect PollWatch to be able to stamp out vote-buying," Dr Amon asked.

Two other members of the House committee yesterday voiced strong support for a constitutionalized role for PollWatch.

Dr Pricha Suwannathat (Democrat Bangkok) said PollWatch needs to have legal status to be able to carry out its duties effectively. But he said it is still too early to decide whether PollWatch should be put in charge of organizing elections in addition to its monitoring role.

House committee spokesman Phinit Charusombat said the Interior Ministry should not be entrusted with organizing as well as monitoring elections. "That's why we need to have an independent body with legal status to counterbalance the ministry," he said.

Members of PollWatch said they were frustrated by the lack of cooperation from Interior Ministry officials in monitoring the two elections. PollWatch has no power to bring charges against suspects but is required to furnish evidence to police.

Dr Chira Hongladarom, PollWatch's spokesman, welcomed the move by members of the ad hoc House committee to constitutionalize the group. "I am sure it would give PollWatch more teeth in fighting election fraud," he said.

He said PollWatch should be able to bring charges against suspects without going through the police. "And while cases are pending in court, PollWatch should have the power to suspend the parliamentary status of MPs under investigation," he said.

The legal ambiguity surrounding the role of PollWatch has led many politicians to file countercharges against it.

While the government has not publicly said that it wants PollWatch to have a constitutionalized role, Prime Minister Chuan Likphai has promised to consider having an independent organization to supervise future elections.

Dr Khothom Ariya, the PollWatch secretary, told THE NATION that Prime Minister Chuan had hinted at an expanded role for the body during a meeting with PollWatch members last week.

Khothom quoted Chuan as saying that PollWatch might in the future even be allowed to monitor local elections.

Former prime minister Anan Panyarachun set up PollWatch through a special order which limited its tenure to Dec 13. But PollWatch has received approval from the Chuan government to extend its term by another six months so that it can review its work and clear up lawsuits filed against its volunteers.

Dr Chira said PollWatch members will spend the next six months following up on unfinished cases and studying voter lists.

He stressed that even without formal government recognition and financial support, PollWatch will continue to exist as a private organization to further the cause of democracy.

The ad hoc House committee, which is expected to take up the PollWatch issue on Wednesday, is charged with reviewing the current Constitution which was promulgated by the military-appointed National Assembly following the coup last year. It is in the process of studying possible changes to make the charter more democratic.

The committee, whose recommendations will have to be submitted to the House of Representatives, has suggested reducing the number and power of senators. During its meeting on Wednesday it is scheduled to discuss the section on the House of Representatives and the question of PollWatch is expected to come up.

PollWatch comprises mostly academics, representatives of non-government organizations and lawyers. It made use of more than 60,000 volunteers to monitor the general election in September and was financially supported by the government.

Khruawan Sommana (Phalang Tham—Bangkok) said she supported the idea of constitutionalizing PollWatch. "All PollWatch could do in the last two elections was to watch without the power to press charges," she said.

Politicians from the former Suchinda government coalition accused PollWatch of acting in favour of the so-called "angelic parties"—parties opposing the military in the May crisis—in the September election. PollWatch volunteers looked for vote-buying activities prior to the election and monitored polling stations on election day.

Crown Prince To Visit Turkey 12-21 Dec

BK1212063492 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in English 0000 GMT 12 Dec 92

[Text] His Royal Highness Crown Prince Maha Wachiralongkon will pay an official visit to the Republic of Turkey from 12 to 21 December. The 10-day visit is at the invitation of the prime minister of the Republic of Turkey. During the trip, his royal highness will observe various activities in the field of industry and visit places of cultural, historical, and religious importance in Ankara, the province of Nevsehir, as well as the towns of Anatalya, Izmir, and the city of Istanbul.

While in Ankara, his royal highness will meet the president of the Republic of Turkey at the Presidential Palace on 14 December. The Turkish prime minister will host a dinner in honor of the crown prince at his residence on 12 December. The crown prince will grant an audience to the Thai community in that country at Ankara Sheraton Hotel on 14 December. The royal visit to Turkey will not only result in the strengthening of the friendly relations between the two countries but will also promote even further the mutual good understanding and friendship between the peoples of the Republic of Turkey and Thailand.

Paper Discusses Senate Election System

BK1212092392 Bangkok THE NATION in English 12 Dec 92 p A6

[Editorial: "A New-Look Senate, or No Senate at All"]

[Text] The House-appointed committee studying proposals on constitutional amendments clearly puts the interest of political parties before anything else. The committee wants to empower the parties to nominate appointees to senate posts based on the proportion of House seats each holds.

If Senate membership is reduced to 120 seats, as the committee advocates, then the Democrat Party, with 79 of the 360 House seats, would be entitled to select 26 senators, while the Chat Phatthana Party, with 60 MPs, would get 20 nominees. But Ratsadon, with only one MP, may nominate none. Under such a system, 69 of the 120 senators would be chosen by the Chuan coalition.

But why does the committee want to create an upper house that promises to look and behave very much like the elected House of Representatives? It seems the MPs dominating the committee can't resist the chance to grab unprecedented power of patronage.

The proposed system may be a slight improvement on the existing one in which selection power is in the hands of the prime minister (who normally shares it with the leaders of his party and government coalition partners under some implicit quota-sharing arrangement when more than one senatorial post has to be filled). At the moment the opposition parties have no selection rights at all. If a prime minister and his coalition stay in power long enough to nominate a majority of senators, then the Senate becomes a rubber stamp of the ruling coalition.

A Shadow of the House

The committee's proposal, however, will divide the Senate along the lines of the division between the government and the opposition in the House. Senators will mostly be drawn from the ranks of the wealthy and powerful who have contributed to the governing parties, plus major candidates who failed to get elected in a previous general election.

One big problem will occur when the House is dissolved and the party composition of the House changes after a new general election. If the former opposition bloc wins enough House seats to form the new government, then it will be faced with the problem of how to deal with a Senate dominated by people chosen by the previous government. Maybe the Senate will have to be dissolved along with the House so that a new government can have a friendly majority in the upper chamber to work with.

In either case the objective of having a Senate to give impartial, obective second opinions on government bills will not be met. Such a Senate cannot justify its existence. It would be more sensible if Thailand adopts the unicameral system, or single national assembly, of elected representatives. The money saved from not having to pay 120 senators can go a long way to hiring clerks and researchers to aid MPs.

The Chuan coalition will have a big say on the proposed system when the committee presents its recommendations to Parliament next year. We hope most government politicians can see the fallacy of trying to reduce the Senate to a mere shadow of the House.

If Thailand wants an impartial Senate to screen bills passed by the House, then all nominees for senate posts should be chosen on merit and the scope of their representation of major occupations. Though not all groups and occupations can be accommodated, the selection process must at least be kept open and transparent so they have an equal chance of being represented in the Senate. The practice of stuffing the Senate with military officers, top bureaucrats and big businessmen must stop, for these elites hardly represent anyone else except their own personal and group interests.

Merit and Representation

We still prefer the idea of creating a pool of national talent from which senate nominees are drawn randomly (perhaps by a computer). Only those who are willing to actively serve in the Senate would have their names submitted for royal appointment. Members of this pool may also vote among themselves for the 120 most qualified and suitable to serve in the Senate. One drawback here is that famous people tend to get elected under such a poll because of name recognition.

Most people now recognize the need to change the existing selection process of senate nominees, which tends to produce a rubber stamp Senate. This is a positive development. But if the new system is to take the form of that proposed by the House committee then it would be a very big step backward. If there is no clear consensus on the shape of the new system, then Thailand should try being governed by a unicameral Parliament for a change.

AFTA Members Propose Tariff Cuts at Trade Talks

BK1412030192 Bangkok THE NATION in English 14 Dec 92 p B12

[Text] Unlike the previous Afta [ASEAN Free Trade Area] Council meeting, Thailand emerged last week as a serious partner to be reckoned with when it came to a commitment to drastic tariff cuts as part of the creation of the Asean Free Trade Area.

Most ASEAN officials were surprised by Thailand's aggressive stance when they saw the list of its manufactured products earmarked for tariff cuts. Thailand turned out to be the most liberal country, after Singapore and Brunei, for bringing down tariff barriers.

By doing so, Thailand has sent a strong signal that deeds are bigger than words.

About two months ago in Manila, Thailand was a villain in the eyes of its ASEAN counterparts. Rafidah Aziz, the Malaysian minister for international trade and industry, and other ASEAN leaders sharply criticized Thailand and questioned its commitment to Afta after they learnt that Thailand wanted to postpone the second Afta Council meeting.

At that time the newly-formed Chuan Administration was about to address its policy in Parliament and Finance Minister Tarrin Nimmanhaemin could not attend the Afta Council meeting because he must be around with the prime minister during the formalization process.

The situation was further complicated by Thailand's insistence that the Afta Council, a body set up to administer Afta, should report directly to the ASEAN heads of government rather than to the ASEAN economic ministers.

When Deputy Prime Minister Dr Suphachai Panitchaphak set foot in Manila, he was forced to hold a news conference to clarify Thailand's ambiguous position.

Cool and prudent, he succeeded in persuading his counterparts that Thailand was more than ready to go along with Afta and had no objection if the other ASEAN members would like the Afta Council to function under the economic ministers.

The colourful Rafidah was the star ot the session at the expense of Thailand's indecisiveness. Supachai was a saviour at the last minute, however.

Last week Rafidah did not seem to have any ammunition left. Malaysia created some difficulties during the negotiations when it wanted to redefine list of products defined as processed.

It wanted to reserve the right to exclude some processed agricultural products from the liberalization schedule, although Afta only exempts unprocessed farm produce.

When it came to exchanging the list of products to be included or excluded from the Afta scheme, Malaysia fared far behind Thailand in the liberal stance. Under the fast track programme, it proposed 648 items for exclusion from a total of 3,251 tariff lines earmarked for accelerated tariff cuts compared to Thailand's proposed 118 items from a total of 1.936 tariff lines.

Indonesia and the Philippines also sought to exclude a higher number of products for temporary protection proposing 1,708 items from 3,165 tariff lines and 1 199 items from 862 tariff lines respectively.

Initially, most ASEAN officials believed that Thailand would have proposed the largest number of items in the exclusion list, but as it turned out Thailand's list was the smallest.

Suphachai did not hesitate to bluff back. Having had a chance to look at the exclusion list of the other ASEAN countries, he called for more commitment from his counterparts.

"If they delay the tariff-reduction plan, businesses and industries within ASEAN will not be able to strengthen their competitive edge against imports from other parts of the world," Suphachai warned.

Suphachai was frequently surrounded by reporters, while Rafidah did not seem to have anything much to say this time.

By Jan 1, 1993 the ASEAN members will launch the regional free trade area as a scheme to intensify intra-regional trade and attract foreign investment.

Over a timeframe of 15 years, they plan to bring down tariff barriers for manufactured goods except unprocessed agricultural produce to 0-5 per cent.

Overall, the ASEAN members have committed to include an average 87 per cent of their tariff lines. As a proportion of each country's total tariff lines, the figures range from 74 per cent to 98 per cent among the six member countries.

On the average, 10 per cent of their tariff lines have been temporarily excluded. As a proportion of tariff lines covered under the Afta scheme, such temporary exclusions range from 0-23 per cent among the six member countries.

The Afta scheme is divided into fast-track and normal-track programmes.

The fast-track programme covers 15 sectors, which consist of cement, vegetable oils, chemicals, fertilizers, pharmaceuticals, plastics, rubber and rubber products, leather and leather products, pulp, textiles, ceramic and glass products, jewellery, copper cathodes, electronics and wooden and rattan furniture.

Under the fast track, tariffs above 20 per cent of products within the sectors will be reduced to 0-5 per cent within 10 years and tariffs at 20 per cent and below will be reduced to 0-5 per cent within seven years.

The normal track is a little more complicated. All tariffs at 20 per cent or below will be reduced to 0-5 per cent within 10 years.

Tariffs above 20 per cent will be cut in two stages: first, to 20 per cent within five to eight years and subsequently to 0-5 per cent in seven years according to a schedule ending on Jan 1, 2008.

Under the rules of origin, the ASEAN members agreed on a 40 per cent local content requirement for a single country or ASEAN cumulation basis for a product to qualify for tax concession. This came after Indonesia agreed to go along with other ASEAN members in establishing a moderate ground rule for the local content requirement.

Indonesia had been arguing that an ASEAN product should carry 40 per cent local content and 25 per cent from the last ASEAN country that re-exported the product.

It was not until late last Fnday that the Indonesian officials got a mandate from their government to compromise with the majority of ASEAN's stance.

It is still difficult to assess the immediate impact of the tariff reduction programme of Afta at this juncture because the ASEAN officials will need to meet again on December 22 to submit the final list of products earmarked for tariff cuts.

By which time, the whole picture will come to light because the officials will be able to come up with the actual value base from the tariff cuts.

In their joint statement, the ASEAN leaders believed: "Afta will stimulate foreign and ASEAN investments through networking and complementation of industrial activities as well as improve the overall trade and investment prospects of all ASEAN countries.

Afta will also result in a significant improvement in the industrial efficiency level of the ASEAN countries."

Future Prospects for Tourism Viewed

BK1212065592 Bangkok THE NATION in English 12 Dec 92 p B8

[Text] Phatthaya—Is Thai tourism, the country's leading foreign exchange earner, battered by domestic and global political instability during the past three years, set to make a strong rebound through the rest of the 1990s?

The answer is largely yes, according to a study authored by Mingsam Santikam Kaosa-at of the Thailand Development Research Institute, the country's venerable economic thinktank.

Mingsam, presenting her case at TDRI's year-end conference in Phatthaya this weekend, concluded that, while external demand remains robust and though Thailand will continue to lead Southeast Asia as a tourism destination throughout the rest of the decade, Thai tourism has come to confront a number of daunting challenges that could prove costly if not squarely tackled soon.

One major source of those challenges is the country's cracking infrastructure. The infamous Bangkok traffic snarls were cited, but the lack of drinking water and public safety are also becoming a tourist deterrent.

"What is clear is that infrastructure is inadequate for the local population, let alone tourists," says her study, titled Priorities for Thai Tourism Development in the 1990s.

Compounded to this is the worsening spread of AIDS, the fatal immune-deficiency syndrome that has worked its way into the local heterosexual population through the commercial sex industry. Even if the tourists want to avoid the sex industry, they may still find enough fears and suspicions about AIDS-contraction to stay away in droves, according to the study.

Another major problem is the environment degradation as a result of tourism-related development. But this can be offset to some extent by exacting an appropriate price from the consumers of nature's surroundings.

The study cited the example of Phatthaya, an east-coast beach resort that sprung to life in the 1960s and prospered until a few years ago when its environment soured and the private sector (the main beneficiary of Phatthaya's boom) was unwilling to undertake necessary conservation and restoration measures such as wastewater treatment and garbage disposal.

Had the private businesses, especially large hotels and resorts which pocketed most of the tourist income, taken those measures, the boom years of Phatthaya could have lasted much longer and the resulting profits would have more than compensated the restoration and conservation costs.

"It is economically possible to salvage Phatthaya's environment, but Phatthaya can never be returned to its initial quality. What is needed now is political will and commitment to bring the resort back to life," the study says. "The example of Phatthaya clearly indicates the need for advanced planning in environmental protection for Thai tourism development."

Like Thailand's natural beauty, local culture is also on sale when tourists arrive. And the costs and benefits of "culture for sale" are uneven as well. The local inhabitants have found the benefits of tourism promotion, which often involves their labour and creativity, accrued largely to the big businesses.

The sale of culture is criticized for "(transforming) a social event into a commercial product, for which some parties pocket profits without compensation to others, who may well be participants in the show."

The disparity of costs and benefits can be addressed by the authorities. The Tourism Authority of Thailand, which deals with tourism-related activities and which was treated rather kindly by the study, should allocate a larger budget to the "physical" and less to the marketing part of tourism development.

On the other hand, "the marketing budget should come from a special tax levied on the tourist sector." Without an adequate tax system on the big (read corporate) businesses that feed on the tourism industry, some tourists will continue to enjoy holidays subsidized by local residents, Mingsam concluded.

In addition, pricing mechanisms should also be employed to reflect the costs and benefits more accurately. Natural and historical parks could charge admission fees equal to maintenance and development costs.

Despite these challenges, Thai tourism stands to lead the region, as Thailand's accommodation capacity, inexpensive and trainable labour, sound managerial skills and competent bureaucracy (the TAT) all combine to offer a most affordable and attractive package to foreigners.

But in the end, says the study "priority should be given to using tourism as a means of improving the welfare of all (Thai) citizens and conserving (the Thai) heritage."

Perceptions of Agriculture, Farmers Viewed

BK1212045992 Bangkok THE NATION in English 12 Dec 92 p B8

[Text] Phatthaya—Contrary to popular belief, the average Thai farmer is remarkably efficient and knowledgeable about his/her trade; if the public misapprehension of farmers and agriculture is dispelled, the government will be able to see more clearly what kinds of policies are needed to enable Thailand's agricultural sector to cope with future challenges.

This proposition is being put forward at the Ambassador Hotel in Phatthaya this weekend by Ammar Siamwalla, director of the Thailand Development Research Institute [TDRI], who has long specialized in agricultural economics.

Ammar suggests that there are four "myths" and two "demons" that must be dealt with before Thai agriculture and the farmer can be treated with justice.

First, the widespread notion that agriculture is uniform and homogenous should be discarded. Agriculture produces a diverse bundle of crops, notes the TDRI chief, which yield different results. Even for a single crop, growing conditions are different throughout the country, leading to varying yields.

The belief that agriculture is uniform has led officials, among others, to search for one single cost of production and to apply experience gained in one crop area to another, resulting in poor planning.

"Trying to plan agricultural production for the country as a whole is a task best left to the gods, and mortals should steer clear of such an exercise," Ammar declares. "Decisions concerning production should devolve as much on the individual farmers as possible, as they would be closest to and most keenly aware of the production environments."

The second myth is that farmers are ignorant peasants, and therefore have to be protected against the consequences of their own actions. Here, Ammar points out that farmers have adequate experience and common sense (regardless of their formal educational level) to adapt the quality and types of crops that are needed.

Hence farmers have been able to adopt the "available and feasible" technology around them for efficient use. Ammar's study suggests that the farmers' low productivity is best explained by the constraints on their resources, not because they are ignorant.

Third, the perception that small-scale agriculture is backward and inefficient, is a fallacy. This hypothesis, which would suggest that only large farms can extract gains from economies of scale, was tested on a grand scale in Marxist countries (pre-1982 Vietnam and the Soviet Union in the 1930s, for example) that tried to collectivize agriculture.

The smallness of farms allows farmers to adapt their methods and decisions most prudently. Accordingly, Ammar argues that small-scale agriculture "can be remarkably adaptable, resilient and responsive to economic changes."

The fourth and last myth in his study is the belief that agriculture generally uses low-technology and is thus technologically backward and stagnant. This myth is based on the fact that agriculture's share in gross national product and commodity prices has declined, and will continue its downward trend.

In reality, it is not that farming is a low-technology enterprise. Rather, farmers have internalized their lessons learned from experience to produce techniques of their own. At the same time, they also use whatever new technology, from formal research and development, suits their farming needs.

Although formal technology has a role to play in agriculture (genetic improvements, resource management on the farm and mechanization), the "low-tech" myth has brought about inappropriate technology for the farmers.

While these myths reside in the policymaking circle, another set of influential individuals also have a responsibility to improve the farmers' lot. These people are the non-governmental-organizations workers [NGOs] that are ostensibly relieving and curing rural problems.

The NGOs, who live and work closely with farmers and thus can thoroughly understand problems on the farm, harbour two "unreasonable" fears, which Ammar refers to as demons.

First, there is the demon of the market. This is an attractive explanation held by conspiracy theorists that the penetration of the market into the countryside ruins the beauty of old-style subsistence farming. As commercialization of farming increased, so has the hostility of the NGOs, according to Ammar.

But, for better or for worse, the market has benefited farmers noticeably. "All data incontrovertibly point to a decline in the extent of poverty in much of Thailand in these two decades," he says. "If anyone still entertains any doubt on this score, I would merely point out that if one asks villagers, rich or poor, whether they would like to have their villages have better access to roads—the central conduit for the market—they will almost to a man answer 'yes.'"

"The market," Ammar discerns, "is nothing more than the presentation of a new option for villagers, which they can accept or reject." With the permanence of the market in Thailand's farming, the study urges the government to promote agribusinesses to become more involved in nudging farmers farther into the marketplace. This is to be done through governmental regulation of contract farming, which revolves around risk-sharing between farmers and the agroindustrialists.

The other demon is indebtedness, a necessary means for farmers to plant their needed fixed investments. While they need long-term credit, farmers often face the only available credit of short-term, high-interest funds.

The government, believing that farmers would be worse off if they have titles to their land, because they would somehow end up squandering the land, has made it difficult for farmers to have legal documents of ownership which can be used as collateral for long-term credits. The upshot is that farmers have not been able to make the required investments, which are central to the future of Thai agriculture.

Ridding these myths and demons yields a clearer policy vision, comprising two principles, according to Ammar, which can be reduced to a five-word command: "Stop being paternalistic to farmers."

More specifically, the first principle is that "decisions on agricultural production should be devolved as much as possible to the farmers: they alone know best what is good for them."

Equally important, "the government could serve farmers' interests best primarily by opening up the range of options that are available to them, and secondly, by making more resources available to them (including the retention of their land and water), but refraining from interfering in farmers' decision to produce or not produce something."

Measures To Promote Rural Development Approved

BK1212054592 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 12 Dec 92 p 13

[Text] The Committee for Rural Development and Decentralisation (CRDD) yesterday approved a package of measures to attract more investment to the provinces.

The package involves the spending of about 54,300 million baht of the 1993 budget on rural development projects nationwide.

One of the measures is promoting listings on the Stock Exchange of Thailand [SET] of provincial enterprises.

The approval came from the CRDD under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Chuan Likphai.

The CRDD met to discuss guidelines and principles for implementation of the measures to help carry out its policy of rural development and decentralisation.

The measures include:

—encouraging state-owned financial institutions such as Krung Thai Bank, the Government Housing Bank and the Government Savings Bank to become leaders in loan extensions in each province.

—encouraging the Government Housing Bank to open more branches in the provinces, to focus more on credit than deposits, and to extend loans to other business sectors in addition to housing.

—enabling more capacity for the Government Savings Bank to extend loans.

—encouraging mutual funds to invest more in the provinces rather than in Bangkok, and persuading private financial institutions to decentralise more to the provinces.

—promoting companies which have invested in the provinces to be listed on the SET.

—improving the budgetary system by enabling more procurement of materials and employment by government agencies focusing on the provinces.

—ensuring more security for investment in the provinces.

About 1,000 million baht has been earmarked for the purpose.

Meanwhile, Mr Chuan said that there are many disincentives to invest in the provinces.

Therefore, he said, it will take time to get a clearcut policy to attract investors.

He said the Government will allocate more cash for each province to draw up an investment plan as a preparation for more investment by the private sector.

The Government will place more stress on tax incentives and social safety to attract more investment.

The CRDD raised for discussion the failure of past rural development programmes in raising the incomes of the rural people to satisfactory levels, although things have improved.

The CRDD pointed to the failure of past programmes to give more significance to the building of basic infrastructure such as electricity, water and telephone.

It said that in the creation of jobs and the improvement of incomes, quality of life will be given priority.

Paper Discusses Growth Pattern of Economy

BK1212045792 Bangkok THE NATION in English 12 Dec 92 p B8

[Text] Phatthaya—Thailand's manufacturing growth has arrived at a three-pronged intersection.

Will Thailand embark on the path of a newly industrializing agro-based economy (NIAE), or will the recent industrial boom in manufacturing follow the footsteps of the "four tigers"—the so-called newly industrializing economies (NIEs)?

Or, as the third possible growth path suggests, will Thailand become a newly industrializing agro-based and service economy (NIASE)?

These questions are being addressed by Mingsan Santikan Kaosa-at at the year-end conference of the Thailand Development Research Institute in Phatthaya today and tomorrow.

The sources of Thailand's manufacturing growth are well-known, and they form the context of Mingsan's study. While the period up to 1980 was characterized by growth generated by domestic demand, the growth period since then has been unmistakably export-driven.

Manufactured exports exceeded agriculture exports for the first time in 1986, and have not fallen behind since. Leading export industries include canned and processed food, textile and leather products, and machinery and electrical products.

In addition, the high-growth in the latter 1980s and the past two years has also been fueled by growth in the financial and real estate sectors.

Although past growth rates have been admirable, they have been achieved unevenly, concentrated mainly in the manufacturing activities around Bangkok. This has resulted in a worsening regional disparity of income between people living in the metropolitan Bangkok area and the countryside.

Past growth also relied heavily on the country's cheap pool of trainable labour and abundant natural resources. But the labour pool is tightening as the industrialization process has brought up wages and made labour more scarce and fertility rates have declined.

Moreover, the available labour is largely unskilled. Mingsan's study stipulates that, by the year 2000, some three-fourths of the country's working population will have attained only a primary education.

The abundance of resources has declined as well, as industries such as canned fruits and canned seafood have used local resources for their export products. But this trend can be abated as these firms find international sourcing.

The role of technology has also become an increasingly important source of growth. Here, Mingsan notes that most Thai industries "have not acquired knowledge beyond what is needed for day-to-day operations and there has been little investment in the research and development that anticipates and creates market opportunities."

Indigenous research and development are recommended, focusing on three key areas: biotechnology, materials and electronics. Related to this is the government's need to promote education in the area of science and technology. Mingsan calls for longer primary education.

"Nine years rather than six years of basic education is considered imperative for Thailand to graduate into a more modern industrial society."

All these challenges lead to Thailand's future growth scenarios. The NIAE path has been forwarded by proponents who argue that the country should take advantage of its long history as an exporter of agricultural products by "(superimposing) industrial technology on the vaguely defined traditional 'advantage' in agriculture."

But this view ignores the declining comparative advantage in agriculture, the importance of traditional patron-client ties in the farms, and the lack of adequate technology in agro-industries.

The second growth picture paints Thailand as a "normal" newly industrializing economy, which continues to shift its productive capacity to higher-technology, value-added industries.

However, promoting high-tech industries may not work because of an unprepared labour force, Mingsan suggests, contrasting Thailand with the successful case of Japan's industrialization in the 1950s when the Japanese had nine years of compulsory schooling.

The third scenario is a hybrid of the other two, proposing a more "balanced" growth path in which all sectors continue to grow. But "this perception is seen as a compromise path, rather than providing a clear vision for particular subsectors and strategies for growth."

Mingsan comes down on the side of the second school of thinking. "Of the three growth scenarios, proponents of the second path tend to have one specific proposals as how to steer the economy towards the desired goal, while the proponents of the NIAEs and NIASEs tend to assume that market forces will do the trick," she says. [sentence as published]

The upshot for Thailand's manufacturing growth to continue is the need for industrial policy coordination. The government should upgrade the Thai work force, as well as provide information and a vision for the future.

Mingsan's conclusion is a more interventionist role by government, not unlike her colleagues in the US who are considered advocates of "managed" international trade.

Chuan Asks Central Bank To Help Rural Areas

BK1112015992 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 11 Dec 92 p 17

[Text] Prime Minister Chuan Likphai yesterday called on the Bank of Thailand to help implement monetary measures to support the Government's policy of distributing economic development and prosperity to rural areas.

Delivering a keynote speech to mark the 50th anniversary of the Bank of Thailand, Mr Chuan said Thailand's successful economic development is partly attributable to proper monetary policies implemented by the Bank of Thailand.

However, despite the country's favourable economic growth rate, which is among the highest in the world, economic development has not yet been distributed to remote areas.

The government has therefore set as a priority the distribution of economic growth to regional and rural areas, and will try to upgrade the living standards of people from all walks of life.

Mr Chuan said: "Whether such a policy can be achieved depends on various factors, including monetary and banking policies, so I would like to ask the Bank of Thailand to help implement monetary measures and policies so that financial institutions support the policies of the Government."

The premier praised the central bank for its contribution to the country's economic success.

"Some of the Bank of Thailand's policies have been strongly criticised and it was accused of having a negative impact on certain businesses. But it was later proved that the Bank of Thailand had done the right thing to solve economic problems in the long term. Officials of the central bank should be proud," he said.

Mr Chuan said the Bank of Thailand is recognised for its neutrality, expertise and honesty, and he hopes central bank officials will help maintain the bank's reputation .

Meanwhile, Bank of Thailand Governor Wichit Suphinit said the Bank of Thailand will adjust its operational role to be in line with the changing economic envlronment and international and domestic monetary systems.

"The Bank of Thailand will adjust and develop the country's monetary system to enable it to efficiently support production sectors, to develop the country to be an important industrialised country of the region," Mr Wichit said.

The Bank of Thailand will achieve its goals if it gets full support from the Government, the agencies concerned and the private sector, he said.

Mr Wichit said the central bank has successfully implemented policies to maintain the country's economic stability.

Implementing such a policy may not bear fruit in the short term, but it will have a wide impact in the long term, he said.

"The success of the policy has been proved by the favourable economic growth of the country," he said.

Minister Comments on Thai-Lao Ties

BK1212133492 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 1200 GMT 12 Dec 92

[Text] Deputy Interior Minister Suthat Ngoenmuen has said that the Thai and Lao Governments will give emphasis to trade and economic cooperation to open the door for trade with China and Indochina, especially Vietnam. Thailand hopes to open more border crossing points on the border with Laos to facilitate transport of goods.

Suthat said Thai-Lao relations have grown in the right direction since 1989. He said this in Vientiane this morning while on a visit to Laos. He noted that Prime Minister Chuan Likphai planned to visit Laos soon after Laos completed the ceremony on the collection of the late Lao President Kaysone Phomvihan's ashes and the election to the Laos' National People's Council.

Vietnam

Radio Comments on Lifting of U.S. Embargo Restrictions

BK1512115692 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1100 GMT 15 Dec 92

["Station opinion"]

[Text] The United States has lifted its restrictions on trade sanctions against Vietnam as from December 14. The spokesman for the White House, Mr. Marlin Fitzwater, elaborated that since Monday U.S. companies have been allowed to sign contracts with Vietnam, open branches or offices in Vietnam, hire or build (?plants), and conduct researches on technology and construction. However, those contracts can only be materialized when the trade sanction is lifted.

With this decision, the U.S. took another step to almost lifting the 17-year old trade embargo against Vietnam. This is the aspiration of the American business circle. As Mr. (Evan Mathew), chairman of the American Investment and Consultant Company in Vietnam put it: At present, some large companies of the U.S. including leading banks, law, oil and gas, telecommunications, and aviation companies have carried out studies and [words indistinct] and are ready to visit Vietnam after the lifting of the U.S. trade sanctions or some of its restrictions.

However, this is only another step of the U.S. toward Vietnam. What the people and business circle of the two countries are waiting for is the lifting of the embargo.

Vietnam, now as before, is always cooperative in settling the humanitarian issues. At the same time it looks toward future for the normalization of relations between the two countries for the interests of the two peoples and American business circles.

Remains of 20 MIA's Said Released After U.S. Embargo Eased

BK1512105092 Hong Kong AFP in English 1010 GMT 15 Dec 92

[Text] Hanoi, Dec 15 (AFP)—Vietnam sent the United States on Tuesday the supposed remains of 20 American soldiers missing in action (MIA) since the Indochina conflict. The action came after the U.S. Government decision Monday to lift partially the 17-year-old trade embargo on Vietnam. Washington said it would authorize U.S. firms to sign contracts with Vietnam, but the contracts could not be implemented until the embargo was lifted entirely.

The remains sent Tuesday brought to 404 the total number of remains Hanoi has sent to the United States, in 39 official returns, since the end of the Indochina conflict in 1975. Many of those remains have subsequently been rejected as not belonging to U.S. soldiers. Three of the sets of remains were found by locals, but the rest were found by joint searches by Vietnamese and U.S. teams between August and November in north and central Vietnam, said Ho Xuan Dich of the Vietnamese office in charge of MIA searches.

"We have done everything possible" to find the some 1,657 U.S. soldiers considered as missing by the Pentagon, said Dich, who was present at the usual ceremony held at Hanoi airport on the occasion of MIA returns.

The return of the remains came ahead of a visit here Thursday by U.S. Senator John Kerry, who chairs a Senate committee investigating the prisoner of war/missing-in-action issue. The Massachusetts Democrat said during a visit here last month that Hanoi was improving its cooperation with Washington on the MIA issue, and advised U.S. President George Bush to soften the embargo on Vietnam. Monday's partial lifting of the embargo came in response to Hanoi's insistence it would cooperate in the search for American soldiers still missing since the Indochina conflict.

The remains, contained in metal coffins covered with the U.S. flag, were put aboard a C-130 plane of the U.S. Air Force. They are to be taken to the U.S. MIA identification center in Hawaii.

15 Dec Morning National Assembly Proceedings Reported

BK1512055992 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 15 Dec 92

[Text] This morning, the National Assembly met at the conference hall to discuss the socioeconomic situation of the state in 1992.

The National Assembly deputies concentrated on assessing the state budget in various aspects. In general, their views were basically in agreement with the report presented by the prime minister. The report said that in 1992 the economic situation throughout the country has undergone encouraging changes.

Specifically, they pointed out the following:

—It is necessary to examine and allocate funds more rationally for investment in capital construction;
—In implementing social policies, although great efforts have been made to solve the problem of employment, progress is still slow and we still have to improve the methods of solving this problem when examining and approving various draft plans;
—It is necessary to continue to study and more rapidly solve the problem of grain prices to encourage peasants to engage in agriculture; and
—It is necessary to accelerate the processing of farm products after harvest in order to quickly turn them into goods of higher value.

This afternoon, the National Assembly will continue to work at the conference hall.

14 Dec Proceedings

BK1412134192 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 14 Dec 92

[Text] Today [14 December] is the fifth day of the Ninth National Assembly's second session.

The deputies held group discussions on the work of the juridical sector and the organ of control sector; on measures against corruption and smuggling; on the draft bill amending and supplementing a number of articles in the criminal code; and on the draft bill amending and supplementing a number of articles in the law on criminal procedures.

While discussing a report of the juridical sector, some deputies held that the report could only cite the number of cases tried so far. It did not underscore the justice of law—as there have been cases where we failed to try the right men for their right offenses—nor did it mention the negativism of the juridical sector from the central down to the local levels so that measures can be mapped out to strengthen the juridical sector under the current process of national renovation.

As for investigation work, much effort has been made to investigate and file charges in many legal cases. However, it still has many limitations.

On the fight against corruption and smuggling, all the views expressed were in agreement with a directive of the prime minister which calls for drastic action without any exceptions against offenders.

One of the major stumbling blocks in this anticorruption and antismuggling struggle is the condoning given to offenders by others in their internal ranks. Therefore, party cadres and members should take the lead in the struggle against corruption and smuggling. Corruption and smuggling are now still quite common in various state organs. Many cases of corruption and smuggling, though already discovered, have not been promptly dealt with. It is suggested that the state and responsible sectors promptly bring these cases to public trial in order to regain public trust.

Concerning the amendment of and supplement to a number of articles in the criminal code and the law on criminal procedures, many speakers contended that at a time when we are switching the subsidy-based administrative system to the multisectoral commodity-based economy and when the corruption and smuggling situation is prevalent, the move to amend and supplement a number of articles in these two laws to suit the situation is necessary and timely.

There are three areas to be revised in the criminal code: the first one being the form of cash penalties and the confiscation of all the money connected with a crime; the second, suspended sentences; and the third, criminal issues. In the third area, there are 19 points to be revised, such as on crimes of counterfeiting goods, trading in counterfeit goods, giving and accepting bribes, tax evasion or tax frauds, and so forth. Many speakers asked that those committing such a crime should be made to face heavy penalties, as provided for in the draft amendments.

As for the law on criminal procedures, the deputies contributed many views on eight issues requiring amendments and revision.

Tomorrow, 15 December, the National Assembly will hold a plenary session at the conference hall to discuss the socioeconomic, national defense, security, and state budget issues.

Inspector General Reports on Anticorruption Efforts

BK1412150592 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 13 Dec 92

["Main points" of a report presented by State Inspector General Nguyen Ky Cam at the 10 December 1992 sitting of the Second Session of the Ninth National Assembly "on law enforcement and on the fight against corruption and smuggling carried out by the state in 1992"—read by announcer]

[Text] As for the situation regarding the fight against corruption and smuggling in 1992, Comrade Nguyen Ky Cam's report said:

Since early this year, many sectors and localities have made certain efforts in the fight against corruption and smuggling and other social vices and this struggle has produced some results.

According to incomplete statistics, there have been over 2,900 corrupt cases discovered, inflicting a loss of over 92.3 billion dong on the state and collectives. Some 1,100 cases have been prosecuted involving over 1,900 people. In 29 provinces and cities alone, administrative disciplinary measures have been taken against 1,600 people.

With regard to antismuggling activities, over 50,000 cases have been discovered and dealt with, with 120 billion dong worth of contraband being seized. The people's courts at various levels have tried 193 cases with 360 defendants.

The state inspection sector has conducted financial inspection in 27 provinces and cities, finding that they there are 512 billion dong and 1.8 million U.S. dollars still due to the state budget and another 257.8 billion dong of revenue already collected but not turned in to the budget.

Through the fight against corruption and smuggling, many sectors and localities have continued to reexamine their production and business establishments and have amended, revised, or introduced thousands of documents centered around various domains such as financial and banking management, imports and exports, capital construction, land management, and so forth. At the same time, leaders of various sectors and localities have realized more clearly those areas where they are still weak in operational management. Through this, efforts have been made to reorganize state management, production and business management, and the employment of cadres.

Since the first session of the Ninth National Assembly, in compliance with its action program already presented to the National Assembly, the government has held a symposium to discuss the fight against corruption and smuggling. The prime minister has directed various echelons and sectors and recently issued decision 114-TTG, dated 21 December 1992, on urgent measures aimed at curbing and eradicating corruption and smuggling. The party Central Committee Political Bureau also issued Directive 15-CTTU, dated 20 November 1992, to the entire party on the need to provide guidance for the fight against corruption and smuggling. The prime minister has personally presided over many meetings with responsible sectors and some localities to provide guidance and discuss specific measures.

If earlier the anticorruption and antismuggling situation was somewhat stalemated, the general anticorruption and antismuggling situation over the past few months has shown some new changes for the better. Drastic leadership measures taken by the prime minister have initially been able to contain smuggling activities and increase revenue for the state. In Lang Son, earlier, monthly tax collection had never surpassed the 2 billion dong mark, but in October 1992, tax collection reportedly reached over 6 billion dong.

As for the reason for this situation, Comrade Nguyen Ky Cam's report points out: Not an inconsiderable number of violation cases have been committed by the leaders of various sectors, localities, and units. For instance, they have dishonestly declared their business revenue so they can benefit from tax reduction and have colluded with one another in engaging in racketeering in order to earn illigimate money, organizing smuggle activities, and setting up illegal funds, and so forth.

The smuggling situation is disrupting our economy. According to an estimate, the value of contraband circulated in the domestic market over the past nine months amounts to approximately 3,000 billion dong, while the value of goods illegally imported and then re-exported is put at nearly 9,000 billion dong.

In the process of renovation, many problems regarding the socioeconomic management policy have not been radically changed. The development of production remains slow and there still exist the state of unemployment. Many production and business establishments have operated at a loss. The irrational wage system continues to exist and social justice has been violated. The market system also has its negative side: that is, it offers an environment for corruption and smuggling as well as other social vices to flourish.

The promulgation of various structural policies still displays many deficiencies and loopholes and a lack of consistency, harmony, and substance. For instance, while allowing production and business enterprises to be autonomous in production and business, we have failed to define the responsibility of enterprise directors in management. Those managerial stipulations in capital construction, in budget allocation, in export-import structure for small-scale businesses, in export-import restrictions, in those services catering to everyday life in various party and state organs, mass organizations and the armed forces, in the system of giving bonuses derived from the budget, and so forth—all these are the loopholes now being capitalized on by the miscreants for corruption and smuggling purposes.

On the other hand, it is due to our procrastination in doing away with the loose management of the state in various areas. The ills of bureaucracy, irresponsibility, and rightism, and the state of indiscriminate operational guidance have been responsible for the tendency to flout the law.

In seeking to correctly appraise the serious consequences of corruption and smuggling which are still prevailing at their sectors, localities, and units, leaders of various echelons, sectors, and units do take into account the realities. It is necessary to clearly define the tasks of the agencies concerned and to directly supervise the struggle against these social vices.

As for the government, it has not promulgated concrete regulations to clearly define the tasks of collectives and individuals responsible for the implementation of this struggle. Administrative and economic measures should be formulated to force leaders of various echelons, sectors, and units to seriously carry out an effective management, supervision, and implementation of the struggle against corruption and smuggling.

One of the most striking issues is that rules and regulations of sectors concerned have not been seriously observed. As a result, criminals tend to belittle the law. There were cases of light penalties imposed on violations that should have been meted out with more serious punishment, while suspended execution of sentences accounted for 38 percent. Moreover, the trial process has been carried out in ways that save face, shun responsibility, and protect the offenders. Some law enforcement agencies have even tended to engage in such negative phenomena as distorting the facts, erroneously dealing with violations, and failing to arrest criminals. Various staff agencies of sectors and echelons from the central to local levels are still weak and incapable, especially in organizing the implementation of the struggle. They are still small in number and poor in quality, while experiencing shortage in equipment and difficulties in their daily life. As a result, they cannot satisfactorily carry out the assinged tasks.

Regarding the objectives and urgent measures against corruption and smuggling for the days ahead, Comrade Nguyen Ky Cam's report stressed: The key orientations for this struggle are the efforts to improve the management of the state budget, strengthen capital construction, promote export-import and aid from nongovernmental agencies, increase tax collections; strictly control the border points, railways, land and sea routes; and improve work at communications, transportation, customs, and trade agencies. It is necessary to continue to supplement, amend, or promulgate new legal documents to perfect our mechanism and policies so as to create a legal base for accelerating production development and the circulation of goods, thereby creating healthy and favorable conditions for development within the framework of the law.

Various sectors and localities must make public various rules and regulations pertaining to their functions, tasks, and activities so that the people may know them and comply with them. Efforts must be made to oppose bureacratism, inconveniences, authoritarianism, and arrogance. Efforts must also be made to prevent bad elements from taking advantage of loopholes to carry out negative activities. It is necessary to immediately eliminate all local rules and regulations in defiance of the law; stop all acts that will create unjustise, loopholes, and special privileges; eliminate the system of making contributions from the lower level or awarding incentives for officials of the tax, market management, and investigation agencies; and so forth.

It is necessary to clearly define the responsibility of leaders of sectors, echelons, and units in supervising the struggle against corruption and smuggling. These leaders must take full responsibility before the party, state, the law, and the people if they fail to satisfactorily carry out the management work, fail to directly and consistently supervise the struggle, fail to formulate preventive measures, fail to seriously deal with violations, and fail to improve the organization and management of their units, thereby encouraging law violations.

To perfect various law enforcement agencies, we must, first of all, purify members of these agencies and discharge disqualified personnel while striving to recruit more competent cadres, especially for agencies that take direct responsibility against corruption and smuggling.

The struggle against corruption and smuggling is a key and urgent task for purifying the party and state apparatuses. As a result, it is necessary to strengthen various administrative echelons' guidance for this struggle. It is also necessary to develop the role of mass organizations—such as the Confederation of Vietnamese Workers, the Youth Union, the Vietnam Women's Union, the War Veterans Association, the Vietnam Peasants Association, people's control organizations, and security teams—in monitoring and discovering cases of corruption and smuggling, thus creating a reliable base for law enforcement agencies in this struggle. Various mass media agencies also play a very important role in the struggle. As a result, efforts must be made to discuss and reach a concensus on their concepts and actions, thereby contributing to creating positive efforts to vigorously fight against all social vices

Indonesia Signs Agricultural Cooperation Document

BK1412142792 Hanoi VNA in English 1406 GMT 14 Dec 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA Dec. 14—A document on agricultural cooperation between Vietnam and Indonesia was signed here today by Vietnamese Minister of Agriculture

Nguyen Cong Tan and Indonesian Minister of Agriculture Wardoyo during his working visit to Vietnam from Dec. 10-14. Under this document, Vietnam and Indonesia will promote cooperation in the production and processing of farm products for export. They will create favourable conditions for Indonesian companies to invest in Vietnam. Indonesia will help Vietnam in the production of fertilizer, share its experiences in the prevention and fight against crop pests and food storage, exchange plant and animal strains and help train managers and technicians for some branches. Minister of Agriculture Nguyen Cong Tan also received a delegation of agricultre of Myanmar [Burma] led by Minister Myint Aung during its ten-day visit to Vietnam from Dec. 5-14, 1992. The Myanmar [Burma] agriculture minister said Myanmar wished to buy farm machines, phosphate fertilizer, cement of Vietnam, and sell to Vietnam wood and other products, and invite Vietnamese agricultural experts to work in Myanmar.

Ha Dang Chairs Hanoi Conference on Propaganda

BK1412050192 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 8 Dec 92

[Text] On the 8 December morning in Hanoi, the party Ideology and Culture Central Department opened a conference on propaganda work of central organizations. Comrade Ha Dang, member of the party Central Committee and director of the party Ideology and Culture Central Department chaired the conference.

Speaking at the conference, all delegates agreed that in the past, the propaganda work of central organizations has had many practical results. Propaganda is a sharp instrument in providing and disseminating party and state lines and policies to educate party members and the public so that they can actively participate in political and socioeconomic activities. It is also useful in building personality, lifestyle, and working attitudes for the successful performance of duties set forth by the party and government.

Through their work, propaganda workers of central organizations have affirmed their important role and position in being an active part of party guidance and government management. Current propaganda work also requires renewal in form, substance, method, and personnel ties between party organs and government offices, and between guidance and propaganda organs.

Secretary, Others Attend Association Anniversary

BK1412045192 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 8 Dec 92

[Text] On 17 December morning, the Hanoi Federation of Science and Technology Associations held a solemn ceremony to mark its 10th founding anniversary.

Attending the function were Comrade Nguyen Dinh Tu, secretary of the party Central Committee and director of the party Science and Education Department; Ha Hoc Trac, member of the party Central Committee and chairman of the Vietnam Federation of Science and Technology Associations; Vo Nguyen Giap; and Le At Hoi, chairman of the Hanoi People's Committee.

In the last 10 years, the federation has developed a lot. Today it has nearly 30,000 members including many exemplary scientists working in 17 specialized associations, seven local and grassroots associations, and eight federation units. Through its plentiful and diversified activities, the federation has contributed significantly to the duty of educating people and spreading scientific understanding in Hanoi. Specially, the federation has gathered many scientists and technicians to contribute practically to socioeconomic development projects in Hanoi. It has also offered many opinions on the drafting of many important party and government documents.

Vu Oanh Meets Voters in Hoa Binh Province

BK1412044392 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 8 Dec 92

[Text] On 6-7 December, Comrade Vu Oanh, member of the Political Bureau of the party Central Committee, and National Assembly deputies met voters in some districts and towns of Hoa Binh Province.

At the meetings, the voters suggested that party and government gradually improve the salary policy to relieve the difficulties of the cadres, workers, government officials, retirees, and social welfare recipients. They requested that all unnecessary procedures for granting loans for production be eliminated to improve employment prospects and the living conditions of working people. They also asked the government to launch an extensive public campaign to fight negativism and to strictly deal with cadres, party members who abuse power, intentionally violate economic management regulations, misappropriate the government and people's money and property or cause their loss, so that the current fight against corruption will be successful.